Wednesday, October 13, 1993

Bentley Library
Northern Essex Community College
Haverhill, MA

**Movie review**

**Fighting Irish movie shines**

*See page 14*

**Check this out**

Eric Lundin looks at the latest attempt to reign in government by the Clinton administration.

*See centerspread*

**Budgets cut 10% for fall**

*See page 4*

# NECC Observer

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S. LaChance photo

**BARBARA ANDERSON states her case regarding graduated tax rates.**

## Taxing debate

### Issue weighed at public forum

By KATHLEEN STEVENS
*Observer Staff Reporter*

"The graduated tax is a penalty for hard work and productivity," said Barbara Anderson of Citizens for Limited Taxation, who squared off against Jim Braude of the Tax Equity Alliance during a recent debate at NECC.

The debate, which contained emotional charges and countercharges, was sponsored by the Haverhill Democratic City Committee and moderated by its chairman, attorney James Fiorentini. Few attended the event, which was not advertised in local newspapers.

**Scaled plan:** The Mass. Constitution requires all residents be taxed at the same rate. The proposed amendment would allow the legislature to levy taxes at any graduated rate it later approves.

Anderson said she opposes a graduated tax because, although the proposed law calls for a reduction for most residents in 1995, there is no protection in the amendment against future tax increases.

She charged that Braude supports the measure because he represents the interests of the public employees' unions and welfare lobbyists.

Braude did not answer the charge, but said the current flat rate system allows the wealthiest residents of the Commonwealth to pay the lowest percent of their income in taxes.

He said the graduated system is intended to make the tax rates fair. He explained that the new proposal is "revenue neutral," meaning there will be no increase in the total amount of revenue collected by the state, but a redistribution of the tax burden.

**Unsafe tax:** He agreed, however, that neither the proposed law nor the amendment contains any protection against further increases, but said the present system also contains no such protection.

Anderson said taxpayers know the difference between the amendment, which would allow a graduated tax for the first time in the state's history, and the law, which will establish tax and exemption

*(continued on page 8)*

## Obsolete computers

### Mac users say lab plagued with 'bad apples'

By TIM JOHNSTON
*Observer News Editor*

So far it has only taken NECC administrators one year to put up a curtain to divide two classes in C-building's Macintosh computer labs.

The curtain, a thorn in the sides of faculty, students and administrators, is only one of the problems plaguing the Mac labs, however.

"They have two classes in the same room," said Mary Sesak, an Advanced Publication Design student. "It's like Russia in here. I'd like to get a half tuition refund because I can only hear half of what (my teacher) says.

"Plus, there are just not enough computers, period."

**No time:** Students have complained about the amount of time, outside of class, available for doing their homework. At the present time, students are restricted to two afternoons a week in which they can use the Macs outside of class.

"If you work on Mondays and Saturdays, you don't get free lab time," said Sean Lambert, advanced publication student. "You've then got to do it all during class, but there's just not enough time.

"They also cram as many people in the class and don't have enough stuff," he said. "If they're going to have as big classes as they do, they need more equipment."

Sandra Meldrum, director of technical labs, said that in general, the college has not had enough interest or money to support computers as much as they should.

**Better effort:** "Everything in the computer world changes so fast that we don't and never will have enough to keep with the times," she said. "Only recently has the president (John R. Dimitry) made a good effort to support technology. It's a good first step, but it is also the first time it has happened since I've been here."

Cathy Latourelle, a part-time teacher of Mac Design and Advanced Publication Design, echoes her students' sentiments.

"I'm very sad that this computer lab has reached this terrible shape," she said. "We've been trying to get the curtain up since last September and it's still not up. Last year, President Dimitry decided that class size should go up to 25 and that we could buy enough equipment to accommodate them, but that means half of the students get good computers and half of them don't."

**Suitable size:** NECC president John R. Dimitry said the decision to allow 25 students to one instructor is in keeping with the rules and regulations set by the unions and is also in keeping with the national norm.

"The state funds us on the enrollment of credit courses, so if our enrollment falls, we lose our funding," he said.

"The biggest problem is the walk-in time – there is none," Latourelle said. "In a college level course, I should be able to give out at least four hours-per-week of homework but right now, that's just impossible."

Students said their academics and creativity were hindered by the lack of color monitors and the lack of computer memory. They said in order for them to do graphic projects on the Macs, they must use color monitors throughout the whole process. At the present time, however, they only get the monitors on a first come, first serve basis, and often are not able to use them.

Chester Hawrylciw, chairperson, division of humanities, recognizes the problem.

**Due to demand:** "We're all frustrated with the conditions in the lab that are due to the tremendous demand for Macintosh courses," Hawrylciw said.

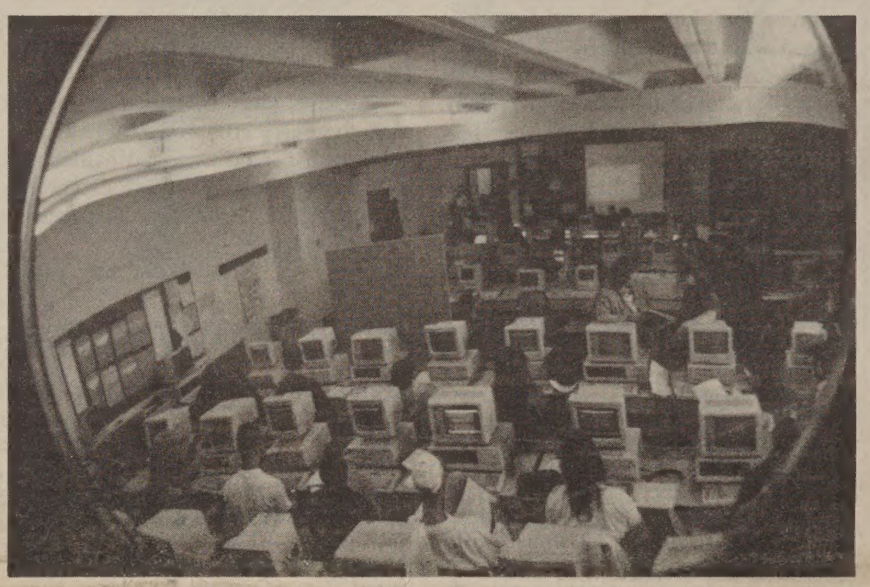
"It's a serious problem. Five years ago, we had one design class; now we have twelve sections in total. With so many classes, there is just not sufficient lab time," he said.

Hawrylciw said that upgrading the memory on the Macs is critical to the program's future. At this time, the Macs are unable to run the most current programs such as Aldus PageMaker 5.0 and Quark.

"Right now were fine," Hawrylciw said. "But the question is, will we be fine in the future?"

Tom Fallon, director of information services, is in charge of computers on campus. He was hired in May and is in charge of seeing the computers that students, faculty and re-

*(continued on page 7)*



**Feeling the byte**

S. LaChance photo

**DESKTOP PUBLISHING students find themselves among English students and vice versa in the Macintosh lab. Many of those taking the Mac courses feel the quality of the hardware is lacking as well as the amount of walk-in time.**

## Reader Response

**Are you satisfied with computer availability on campus?**

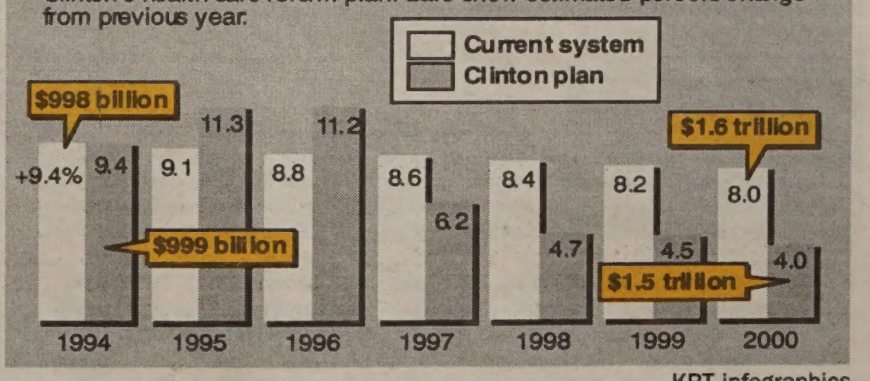
*Call 374-3900, ext. 2634 today. Leave your name, number and message, and we will print several responses in our next issue.*

*For responses to last issue's questions, see page 4.*

## Today's Infographic

**Health care spending old and new**

How national health care spending would change under President Clinton's health care reform plan. Bars show estimated percent change from previous year.




KRT infographics

# High tech woes

## Students deserve better equipment

**Observer** Editorial

Community colleges have an awesome task in trying to keep up with the fickle world of bits and bytes. Computers are the single most important field in which students should be educated. NECC may be overlooking this fact, however.

It is important for community colleges to position themselves on the cutting edge of technology because it is up to them to provide students with the latest, most widely used hardware and software being used in the workplace.

Everyone knows the reason students want to be educated is to get a job. To do this, they must be educated in a way that makes them attractive to a prospective employer. If students are trained on outdated equipment or have not covered all of the facets of a particular computer program, employers will be less than pleased with their resumés.

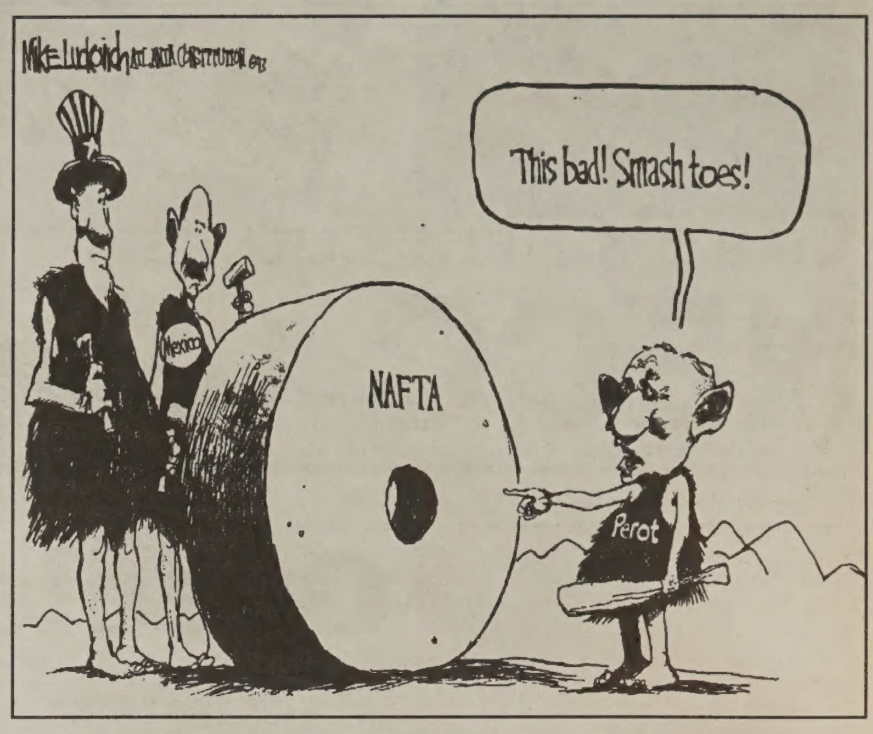
Sadly, this is the problem faced by desktop publishing students at NECC. They don't have enough of the right equipment. Nor do they have the lab time in which to learn about it. Students are forced to work in less than satisfactory conditions, with two classes in one room where instructors are forced to compete with and drown out each other's voices. This is not fair to the students who pay good money for the courses and the instructors who are trying to teach them.

This is not the way to educate. NECC must decide whether it wants to give Mac students a fighting chance in the workplace or not. It seems as though the Haverhill Mac lab is being neglected to the point where the students who wish to enroll the Mac courses will have no choice but to go to Lawrence to take them.

The IBM PC labs are also in poor shape at the present time. The new IBM lab which will be in place next year will be a much-needed improvement, however. Now it is time for those in charge to make a decision on what to do with the Macintosh program.

Students must be prepared for the work force after completing their degree. Education should not be a halfhearted production. Unfortunately for some students at NECC, that is what they seem to be getting lately.

*See related story, page 1*




# Animal abuse continues

## Other options available to concerned biology students

To the editor:

I will always remember the small, dead, black and pink, squint-eyed, piglet I purchased in a see-through plastic pouch for $9 from a shelf at the back of the campus bookstore. I remember tying the four tiny cloven hooves to the edge of the dissection tray with rubber bands, and the animal lying there prostrate, splay-legged, tongue protruding. I remember the first incision down the chest and belly, the soft skin splitting open.

My pig was just one of hundreds of thousands of animals killed that year for use in college dissections. This year will be no different. New shipments of cats from the shelters and the streets, dogfish from the gill nets, and fetal pigs from the slaughterhouse will arrive for the general biology or the comparative anatomy courses. Sometime this spring or fall, the smell of formaldehyde will permeate the biology halls as the annual ritual of dissection is once again carried out.

Should an animal die so that I can see exactly how a pancreas connects to a small intestine? Does my education justify the gassing of a stray cat, the "harvesting" of wild frogs, or the exsanguination (bleeding out) of a pregnant mother pig? Will this exercise foster respect for the environment in my generation of policy-makers? Is it possible to affirm life while extinguishing it? No.

If you are to take a course in which animals will be harmed, you, too, needn't harm animals. Today, there is an abundance of computer programs, videodiscs, models, self-study modules, charts and manuals to help you learn without harming any animals. Non-invasive field study is another excellent "alternative" to many traditional exercises. Moreover, a growing number of published reports are revealing that students learn anatomy and other biology lessons, equally or better using alternatives than they do by dissecting animals or harming them in other ways. And as more and more students are saying "no" to harming animals in their schooling, the availability of alternatives and the number of dissection choice policies are rising steadily.

But it is only by speaking out – politely but firmly – that you will make a difference. Change comes not from quiet acquiescence to dubious practices; it comes about when those practices are questioned and challenged. As your college experience unfolds, you can wander through it as one would an art gallery, or you can participate actively in it. I recommend the latter option. If you believe it's time for a change in how animals fit into college education, do your part to bring that change about.

Jonathan Balcombe, Ph.D.,
biologist and assistant director for Education with The Humane Society of the United States

# Sexual harassment

## Students, staff urged to test their knowledge of a problem facing many colleges today

**Observer** Letters

To the editor:

At a Massachussetts Teachers Association Conference in Williamstown, Mass., an interesting topic was discussed that might be of interest to the college community at large. The issue was sexual harassment.

In the discussion it became apparent that sexual harassment and sexual discrimination are intricately linked. The following questionnaire was presented to the participants to answer. Here it is. Try the questionnaire and see how many you get right.

**Sexual harassment questionnaire:**

Do these actions constitute sexual harassment?

For 1-6, mark YES or NO

1. The male faculty in Kathy's college put up female pinups in the faculty lounge. Kathy has never heard them refer to the pictures or make sexual remarks to women in the college, but Kathy feels humiliated by the pictures.

2. One male co-worker always makes a point of rubbing up against Ann when he walks past her. He always says "excuse me," but the look on his face indicated that it's no accident.

3. The dean is famous for his dirty jokes, sexual comments and leering. It really bothers Effie to the point that she gets headaches by late afternoon after listening to it all day. Effie talks about it with other women in her department, but they tell her it doesn't bother them because "he's all talk and no action."

4. Marjorie, a librarian, refused her library director's dinner date invitations, and now it seems that all the better assignments are going to other people.

When Marjorie asks him about it, he tells her that she hasn't adequately demonstrated sufficient "teamwork skills" to obtain these assignments.

5. Felicia is on the union's negotiating committee which met very late one night recently. The union president offered to drive her home, and she accepted.

On the way home, he complimented her on her negotiating skills and how attractive and professional she looked at the bargaining table. In front of her house, he attempted to kiss her. She firmly resisted. He became angry and questioned why she took a ride in the first place.

She later found out from another association representative that the union had reassigned her to the negotiating support committee to make sandwiches for the bargaining committee.

6. Ellen dated a co-worker for awhile, but broke off the relationship after a couple of months. Ellen occasionally works on projects with him, but he is very formal and never says more to Ellen than he has to. Ellen feels badly that they can't be friends anymore.

Do these actions constitute sexual harassment?

Mark TRUE or FALSE for 7-11.

7. Sexual harassment is usually an isolated incident. Most incidents are not repeated, or if they are, they do not last long.

8. Men use sexual harassment largely to demonstrate sexual desire.

9. If a woman is sexually harassed by someone, it's likely that he has harassed others.

10. Despite the hassle it presents, few women get fired or resign their jobs because of sexual harassment.

11. A large percentage of women reporting sexual harassment also report suffering psychological stress and/or physical stress symptoms.

These issues have been tested in the federal courts and case law now applies to them. The correct answers will be given and the reasons behind the answers in one through six will be analyzed in the next *Observer*.

F.J. Osborne,
member of the Sexual Harassment Committee

**NECC** Observer

**Elliott Way, Haverhill, Mass. 01830 (508) 374-3900, ext. 2634**

**Editors**–Eric Lundin & Kerry O'Brien
**Managing Editor**–Mary Harrington
**News Editor**–Tim Johnston
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The **NECC** Observer is a public forum dedicated to the ideals of quality journalism. **To contribute** – Signed letters or guest columns are always welcome, especially if they concern NECC campus events, people or issues. Due to space limitations, we reserve the right to edit all material. Deadline for next issue: Wednesday, Oct. 20.

**National Pacemaker Award**–Associated Collegiate Press, 1992
**New England College Newspaper of the Year**–New England Newspaper Association
**Best of Show**–Associated Collegiate Press, Chicago, Fall 1992
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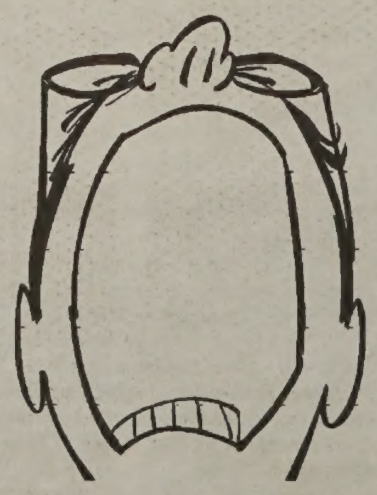


**Don't forget those letters to the editor**

Drop them off at our office in the student center or call our new reader response line at ext. 2634.
Thanks for the input.

# Doomed to failure?

## Gore's plan equals symbolism over substance

By ERIC LUNDIN
*Observer Editor*

Valiantly waging war on bureaucracy, Vice President Al Gore attempts to slay the bloated dragon of big government with a pea shooter.

Eight months ago, the National Performance Review, a 200-member task force headed by Gore, was founded to ultimately make government more efficient and customer friendly. The fruits of their labor were revealed in the report, *From Red Tape To Results: Creating A Government That Works Better And Costs Less.*

The report only boasts moderate savings, however. Over five years, the NPR theorizes total savings will amount to $108 billion – pocket change for a federal bureaucracy so large and expensive. If fully implemented, it would represent only 1.3 percent of the total federal spending over the next five years.

**Political praise:** Congressmen and President Bill Clinton laud the initiative, claiming it is a good start to end pork-barrel spending and red tape piling up around capital hill. But what the American public is witnessing is one big, planned publicity stunt. The idea the government will agree to regulate itself is a pipe dream, providing an opportunity for congressmen to go on record saying they care about a more efficient government.

Liberals think all one has to do is care about an issue and the problem will go away. Unfortunately, caring won't tame the nature of the beast.

"One of the best things going for the report is that the Clinton administration cares about it," writes *U.S. News and World Report* recently. Do these people forget that Clinton also cares about his stimulus package? His gays in the military plan? It didn't matter if Clinton cared about these issues. It didn't even matter that he enjoys a Democratic-controlled Congress.

The paltry goals of the NPR will never be reached. Two months ago, the president pleaded with and promised the kitchen sink to over a dozen congressmen and senators to pass his budget package. Now he feels he can effectively cut subsidies in their districts and streamline the way they conduct business at the nation's capital.

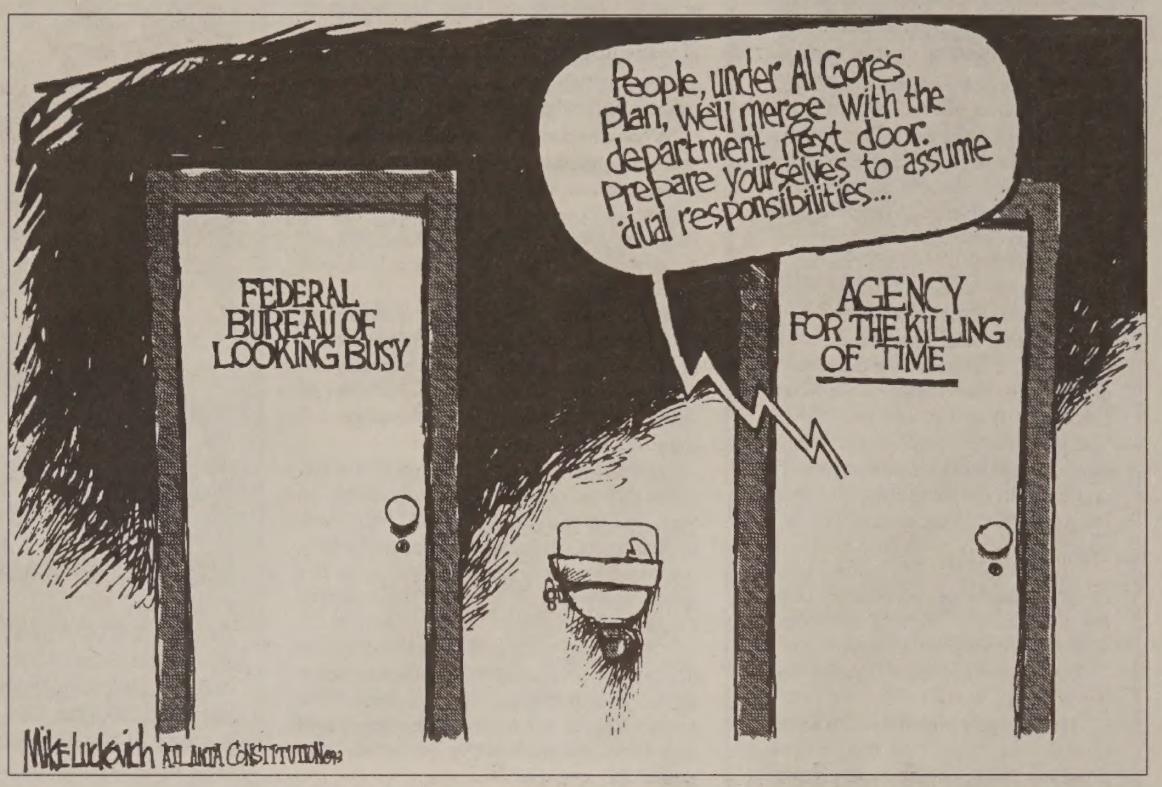
**Law of nature:** Members of Congress love to funnel money back to their districts. It's their job; it's why they get reelected. Pork-barrel legislation is a great indication of how a local Congressman can beef up his campaign by bringing the state some added funds.

Martin L. Gross, author of *The Government Racket : Washington Waste From A to Z* cites the following examples:

- $500,000 to build a replica of the Great Pyramid of Egypt in Indiana;
- $2.7 million for a catfish farm in Arkansas;
- $3.1 million to convert a ferry boat into a crab restaurant in Baltimore;
- $33 million to pump sand onto private beaches in Florida; and
- $144,000 to study if pigeons follow human economic laws.

Illustrations of pork-barrel spending are numerous. It is also a strong indication that just because Gore says he wants to end the wool and mohair subsidy, doesn't mean it will happen or that another ridiculous program won't take its place.

Another serious flaw in the presentation of the NPR's findings is that reinventing government will not appear on the House floor as a package. Instead, certain proposals will get tacked on to different bills filtering through the legislative process. This is a great way for plans to vanish from the public's sight or get swept under the rug as a result of political stalemates.




## Conservative Corner

**Center stage:** How convenient for the Clinton administration. The public relations hoopla surrounding this review has been silly. Gore has appeared on talk shows across the country pushing this project, gaining support from a disenchanted American public. Now, no one will know its fate; we are all left to assume Congress will accept every proposal with open arms.

If the past is any guide, the insights of the NPR are doomed to fall by the wayside. This has all been tried before countless times and government hasn't gotten more efficient, only worse.

Over the years, committees such as Vice President Quayle's Council on Competitiveness, Lyndon Johnson's Programming-Planning-and-Budgeting Systems, Richard Nixon's Management by Objectives, two Hoover Commissions and Ronald Reagan's Grace Commission all tried to cut government waste. But waste is still there, growing out of a control in a government so big that it trips over itself every time it moves.

It is not that these commissions lacked good intentions, but that the federal government feared what these good intentions could do to them. By fully implementing the proposals of these commissions, government would voluntarily give up power. By downsizing the workforce of civil servants, officials would find themselves doing more work in a government that is always asking them to do more.

**Stifled success:** The Grace Commission did save $152 billion between 1986 and 1989, according to the Office of Management and Budget. But if fully implemented, it would have saved $424.4 billion.

Apparently, Congress found some of the Grace Commission recommendations too sobering to enforce. For example, removing certain tax exemptions from the farm credit system would have saved another estimated $648 million over five years. Using direct deposit/electronic funds transfer to pay federal salaries would have saved another estimated five-year savings of $344 million.

The most disturbing aspect of Clinton and Gore's dedication to save the American taxpayer money and tighten expanding bureaucracy is that it is so out of line with the administration's plans for the country.

This is the administration that promised a middle-class tax cut and ended up raising taxes; Gore himself proudly cast the deciding vote to do so. Perhaps, if the NPR's conditions are met, the taxpayers will be refunded.

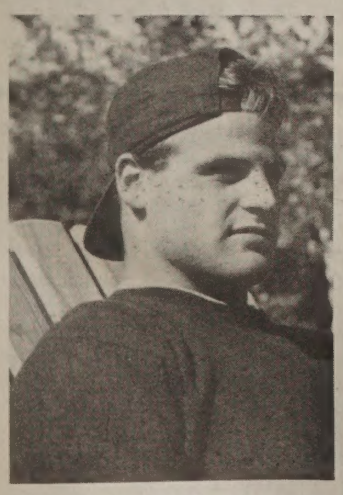
**Bigger government:** Also, if the NPR's goal is to cut down on federal bureaucracies, the Clinton administration is in the process of creating a Frankenstein monster: national health care.

To say this, or the recently approved National Service Plan, will not become a haven for red tape and mounds of federal paperwork-in-triplicate is to say that the sun won't rise tomorrow.

Gore's plan to end the rising tide of red ink on capital hill, no matter how inadequate, is a noble idea.

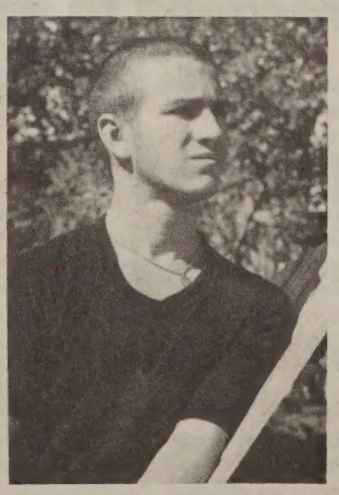
Unfortunately it is just an idea. It is time America wakes up to this fact instead of thinking the nice boys in Washington are going to fix everything they've broken.

## *Is it possible to cut government waste?*



**Jason Steiner,** business management
"Yes, I think so. Cut back some of the stuff they buy and budget better."

**Marika Baymler,** liberal arts
"Yes. They could stop paying hundreds of dollars for things they could buy for much cheaper."



**Dan Chapman,** chemistry
"I think the government is full of crap. I think they're trying to cut down but they're not going to. They haven't learned how yet."

**Catherine San Antonio,** liberal arts
"It's possible if we could all agree things need to be changed and could get away from a debating society to look at the bigger picture."

**Getra Walthe,** liberal arts
"Yes, Clinton can do anything. They could consolidate many programs like the FBI and CIA and that should cut down red tape."

*S. LaChance photos*

## Observer Briefs

### Faculty member gains new post

Mary DiGiovanni of Reading, a faculty member and coordinator of the Mental Health Technology Program at NECC, has been elected president of the Council for Standards in Human Service Education (CSHSE).

DiGiovanni has served on the CSHSE board of directors since 1989. As its president, she will provide consultation and direction to human services programs and educators on a national basis. She will also work directly with the National Organization for Human Service Education.

DiGiovanni has long been active in the human services field. After receiving both a bachelor's in nursing and a master's in arts and sciences from Boston College, she accepted a grant from the Southern Regional Education Board in the late 1970s. She then helped implement faculty development workshops and identify core curriculums for the relatively new human services profession at the associate and bachelor's degree levels.

In addition, she was instrumental in the inclusion of competency skills for the delivery of human services within these same core curriculums.

DiGiovanni has been a faculty member at NECC since 1970.

The college's Mental Health Technology Program is a 62 course hour program of study designed to instruct students in the theory and skills needed to recognize mental health problems in individuals, in groups and in the community; to understand the structure of mental health facilities, to understand current modalities of treatment in mental health, and to assist with physical rehabilitative therapies.

The Council for Standards in Human Services Education is the only national organization providing standards and assistance aimed at improving the quality, consistency and relevance of human service training programs.

### Student awarded two scholarships

Cheryl Cardillo of Lawrence, a liberal arts major at NECC, has been awarded the President Emeritus Harold Bentley Memorial Scholarship and the NECC Alumni Association Scholarship.

The $500 President Emeritus Harold Bentley Memorial Scholarship was presented by Chet Hawrylciw, assistant dean, division of humanities and communication, at a recent scholarship awards ceremony at the college's Haverhill campus.

The award is granted annually to a NECC student who demonstrates excellence in oral communication skills in honor of Harold Bentley, the founding president of the college.

Bentley, who served as president from 1960 to1975, died in 1989.

Dorothy Holmes, alumni association scholarship chairperson, presented Cardillo with a $300 NECC Alumni Association Scholarship, given on the basis of academic achievement, extracurricular activities at the college and community service.

A 1990 graduate of Lawrence High School, Cardillo plans to continue her education in psychology after graduation from NECC.

### 'Observer' named Pacemaker finalist

NECC's student newspaper is one of the top 15 community college publications in the nation today, according to the Associated Collegiate Press (ACP).

The *Observer* is now in competition for the National Pacemaker Award given by ACP at its annual convention in Dallas, Texas at the end of the month.

# Base budgets cut by 10 percent

## College looks for ways to make up for unexpected drop in state allocation

By KERRY O'BRIEN
*Observer Editor*

Although up $1.4 million from fiscal year 1993, NECC faces a budget shortfall of roughly $400,000 this year. The mandated 13.25 percent unionized employee salary hike for full-time employees and some part-timers wasn't fully supported within the college's total budget of $22,874,399.

While this doesn't pose any financial burdens on students, Joseph Brown, dean of administration, said there isn't money left for augmentation and improvement. NECC President John R. Dimitry said the college's greatest need is for new equipment because it is very badly underequipped.

**Dark ages:** "The college is becoming inadequate in the electronic equipment area," he said. "We need to pick up the spending and purchase equipment that has slipped by for six years. For that reason, this year's budget was a real downer."

The board of trustees approved the colleges' five-year capital improvement plan on Sept. 1. The plan consists of $2.5 million to be spent on academic equipment replacement and maintenance over a period of five years. An amount of $400,000 was approved by the board of trustees for the first year.

"After many years of underfunding, we decided we absolutely need sufficient, state-of-the-art equipment," Brown said. "The budget is tight, so it means a reduction in staff and other materials we've previously supported."

He said the equipment updating applies to microscopes, microcomputers and physics and chemistry lab equipment.

**Making do:** All non-salary costs took a 10 percent across-the-board cut in order to account for the unbalanced budget. This reduction includes all non-personnel resources, lighting, heating and all other maintenance needs.

As a result of NECC's fiscal outcome, 40 full-time positions remain vacant, causing an increase in class size. Sabbatical leaves cannot be granted and out-of-state travel and marketing costs have also been limited.

Dimitry said the veto by the Higher Education Coordinating Council of the Higher Education Early Retirement Bill was an unexpected and major setback to NECC.

"I had a stack of forms from people who were waiting to leave," he said. "We were planning on this perfect bill to save us hundreds of dollars. And not one person retired."

**Bone dry:** For NECC/Lawrence, Brown said the college is strapped as far as its ability to further expand the Lawrence campus at a time when the budget is being reduced. Brown said even though the expectation was that the legislature would fully fund the state-imposed raises, it is still only partially the issue of the budget cut.

"The general economy of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts is poor," Brown said. "General state tax revenue is reduced, so NECC takes a hit. The basic problem is that there isn't enough funds."

NECC would still need $1.5 million in order to match its 1988 state allocation of $12.2 million. Brown said there has been a gradual increase over the past couple of years, but there won't be anything substantial until the economy gets to where it was in the mid-1980s.

**Low cost:** In spite of the tight budget, Brown said the president remains adamant and will do everything in his power to hold down fees.

NECC's fee ranks the lowest in Massachusetts. The flat rate per credit hour, however, went up $1 for Day DCE from $69 to $70. The HECC mandated the tuition increase late last spring for all state colleges. But John Guarino, budget committee member, said Dimitry didn't take the committee's input seriously as it wasn't opposed to raising fees. He said if the college is expected to continue at the same pace, fees will have to be raised eventually because it can't be all things for all people at an inexpensive rate.

"This school is turning into a business with the AT&T office, the Center for Business and Industry and research and development," Guarino said. "It's time to crunch down on our academic mission. Our function is to teach students."

Guarino said lobbying to get the state to allocate more money is an action for consideration.

"The legislature did the right thing," Dimitry said. "But at the expense of our budget. We have to pick up the burden for something we weren't a part of. The legislature didn't cover our budget, and it should always match the salary increase."

**Walk this way**

*File photo*

**COLLEGE STAFFERS, Susan Dow, Marilee Holleman, Kerri Holleman, back row, Jane Bradley, Donna Montalbano and Burt Dow, front row, take time out to join forces in the "American Heart Walk," recently. The group raised over $1,300 for the American Heart Association, more than any other agency in the Merrimack Valley.**

**Cutting back**

***"The budget is tight, so it means a reduction in staff and other materials we've previously supported," said Joseph H. Brown, dean of administration.***

# Readers respond to academic standards proposal

## Reader Response Line: ext. 2634

**Kelly Steele,** theater
"I think that NECC is a stepping stone for better education. I think that NECC is a great school to use to get a two-year degree and move on to a four-year college."

**Kristine Carey**
"I feel that we should all be required to perhaps keep a certain GPA or something along those lines, but showing transcripts, SATs for community college is ridiculous. Community college is many people's only chance at moving ahead, and not allowing them to do so is ludicrous."

**Jason Parla**
"Strict standards will make it easier to transfer. On the other hand, some people come here to shape their grades up. Maybe the SAT scores and assessments test would do it."

**Julie Risner,** broadcasting/journalism
"I feel that there shouldn't be an upgrading of standards here because it's hard enough to get into other schools due to high grade point averages and SAT scores, not to mention money."

**Mary Twomey,** computers
"The college should not use high school grades or SAT scores because they could restrict some people from NECC.

"As an example: Take someone who did poorly in high school and maybe didn't even take an SAT.

"He or she decides to go to college some five or 10 years after high school.

"During this time period, after graduating from high school, they have matured and now realize they need a college education to get ahead in the world. Would they be restricted from attending NECC because of poor grades received years ago?

"It seems to me that people who return to college late in life should not be excluded by these criteria alone. They have experience and abilities that should be recognized in the overall evaluation and assessment.

"High school transcripts and SAT scores should not be the only criteria used for a prospective student."

**Jeff Carey,** biology
"I support the president's plan because it will help students get through school easier."

**Jose Reynoso,** business management
"The president should review a lot of students because there are a lot here who aren't even here to study, but he shouldn't close up the opportunity to students who are here to study. He should enforce developmental classes and maybe honors classes."

**Nicole Cloutier,** liberal arts
"I think the president should be selective. It would improve the quality of education we receive here, and it would be easier to transfer."

# New era of national service

## Participation, creativity essential to success of volunteer plan

By MARY HARRINGTON
*Observer Managing Editor*

Leaving the "me" ethic of the '80s behind, the recently passed national service bill is intended to spawn a new spirit of civic obligation and participation in America by encouraging community service. While the plan has been lauded by most politicians and favorably received nation-wide, not everyone heralds its message.

The plan includes full-time national service for adults who will receive over $9,000 in educational grants upon completion of the program, and a minimum-wage living allowance while they serve.

In exchange for two years of community service in such areas as public health and safety, education and the environment, students will be provided with money applicable toward college or other post-secondary education.

**Opposed:** But one man perceives the plan as just another mechanism to get an award.

At a recent lecture at Boston Public Library, psychiatrist Robert Coles, discussing his latest book, *The Call of Service: A Witness to Idealism*, said he opposes giving college credit for community service.

"Volunteering should come from the heart and mind," he said. "It should be segmented by virtue of virtue."

Answering his own question why people want to help each other, he said it is a deeply human impulse. And referring to Charles Dickens phrase of telescopic philanthropy, he said there is an enormous interest in what is going on 10,000 miles away, while walking away from one's own children and families.

**Initiative:** The national service plan intends to build the American community through a new domestic Peace Corps. Americans will unite to tackle pressing national problems through this plan, founded on the traditional values of educational opportunity while demanding personal responsibility.

Sen. Harris Wofford (D-Penn.) worked on forming the Peace Corps 30 years ago. In a *The New York Times* article, he said, "We knew that the logic of sending the Peace Corps to Asia, Africa and Latin America was that the idea would come home someday on a big scale to help America."

The first participants are scheduled to begin work in summer 1994. Local groups will submit creative solutions to community problems and then receive government subsidies to hire the forces needed to accomplish the tasks.

National service teams will participate in various activities, such as literary workshops, crime prevention, immunization drives and urban redevelopment projects.

### National service bill

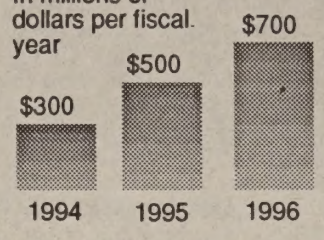
The $1.5 billion national service act will provide education grants that students would earn through national service.

**How students will earn grants**

- **Size of grants:** $4,725 for each term of service. Students could serve a maximum of two terms, earning a $9,450 grant. Grants must be used within five years.
- **Term of service:** One year full-time, two years part-time, or three years part-time if student is in school. Full-time work would be 1,700 hours service per year; part-time, 900 hours. Students would be paid 85 percent of minimum wage for hours worked and be provided health insurance, partially paid by the federal government. Full-time workers could also receive child care if needed.
- **Eligibility:** Must be age 17 or older, a high school graduate or agree to achieve general equivalency diplomas. Participants would be chosen on a non-discriminatory basis with special attention provided for disadvantaged youths.
- **Type of service:** Students would work in not-for-profit organizations, community centers, parks, governments agencies, public hospitals.
- **Where grants may be used:** Accredited public and private colleges and universities, trade schools and community colleges.

**Funding national service**

In millions of dollars per fiscal year




**Who will run the program?**

A new Corporation for National and Community Service will be created by combining the Commission on National and Community Service and ACTION agencies. The new agency would administer programs created by the act, as well as VISTA, the Domestic Volunteer Service Act and older Americans volunteer programs. Federal funds would go to state agencies, where students would be recruited and volunteer work would be organized.

SOURCES: Congressional Quarterly, news reports

9/20/93 KRT Infographics

While some of the money will be apportioned according to states' population, the remainder will be distributed competitively. The most innovative projects will be chosen for funding.

**Program planning:** A Corporation for National Service will be established to oversee the project. It will develop quality criteria and require substantial impacts, but allow communities the freedom to design programs best suited to their needs. Programs are expected to sharpen service workers' skills while educating them in the civic responsiblity America's democracy requires.

Sen. Edward M Kennedy (D-Mass.), who managed the bill in the senate, told *The New York Times,* "Community service is as old as America. Helping others, helping others to help themselves, helping communities all across this nation is a value which is as old as the nation itself."

Coles said the idea behind service is the effort on the part of all people to get out of one's shoes and be put in the shoes of another. There are things to do in schools, churches, soup kitchens, prisons and hospitals. But there is also the need to think of people in other countries. The need to think one world is eminent due to the great amount of intimacy shared by society.

"Home is where we most often sin, but it can also be where we heal," Coles said. "Home can include the whole world, and let us try to do that."

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## Observer Briefs

### Buckling down on safety belts

Police from the communities of Andover, Lawrence, Methuen and North Andover are getting tough with parents who don't buckle up their children.

Project Safe Ride at NECC announces an offenders' program for those who violate the child passenger law. The program is a collaborative of the four police departments and Project Safe Ride at NECC.

The offenders' program, titled "Please Be Seated," works this way: When a person is ticketed for violating the child passenger law, that person will have the option of attending a class in lieu of paying the fine and insurance surcharge.

The child passenger law requires children 13-years-old and under be secured in a car seat or by a safety belt.

Officers from each department will alternate instructing the course, which is to be held every Monday night at 7 p.m. in the Stevens Classroom at Lawrence General Hospital.

Class participants will learn about crash dynamics, the importance of buckling up and how to properly use a car seat.

Attendance at the "Please Be Seated" class is the only way for violators to waive paying an insurance surcharge.

"This class is a way to educate those most needing child passenger information," said NECC President John R. Dimitry.

### Women's group offers assistance

Women considering returning to school are invited to stop by the Women's Resource Network at NECC to learn about resources available to them at the college and in the community.

Joan Patrakis, interim director of the network, is available Monday through Friday, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. to answer questions, point people in the right direction and offer support.

"Many women want to continue their education, but they are very anxious about getting back in the classroom," Patrakis said. "They think that other students are going to be younger than they are; that they will have forgotten how to study; and that they won't be able to balance schoolwork and homelife.

"My job is to let them know that they can do it," she said. "And since I returned to school two years ago after raising my family, women usually believe me and listen to what I have to say."

The drop-in center located in B-109 opened in November 1992, to provide women the opportunity to socialize, share concerns and interests, form relationships and gain confidence and self-awareness.

For more information, call 374-3832.

### Biotech program now offered

A new 11-month certificate is now available at NECC in the booming field of biotechnology.

The program offers students theoretical and practical training in the skills needed for entry-level jobs as technicians in the biotechnology industry.

Twenty-nine credit hours are needed to complete the certificate.

Students will be prepared for employment opportunities in private research, development and manufacturing firms.

For more information contact Ed DeSchuytner at (508) 374-3891.

## Observer Briefs

### Bradford offers transfer grants

A new scholarship program at Bradford College will provide half-tuition merit awards worth $6,610 per year to deserving NECC students who transfer to the four-year liberal arts college.

Bradford will award merit scholarships to transfer students who earn at least 60 credits and achieve a minimum 3.20 cumulative grade point average in their studies at the community college.

Students from liberal arts, general studies, interdisciplinary studies, business transfer and honors programs are eligible for the scholarship program.

The announcement follows an agreement signed by the two colleges last November which facilitates the transfer of NECC students into Bradford's five four-year degree programs: creative arts, humanities, human studies, management and natural science and mathematics.

"We have enjoyed a record number of freshmen and transfer applications for the 1993-94 academic year," says Bradford College President Joseph Short.

"The offering of merit scholarships to deserving transfer students is part of Bradford's continuing effort to solidify linkages with Northern Essex Community College," he said.

The scholarships are renewable each year based on satisfactory academic achievement. Tuition at Bradford for the 1993-94 academic year is $13,220.

For more information about the merit scholarship program, call Kathy Bresnahan, transfer counselor, at 1-800-336-6448

### College honors student scholars

NECC recently honored its 1993 scholarship recipients at an all-college affair in the Bentley Library Conference Center on its Haverhill campus.

The reception recognized approximately 40 students receiving over 20 different scholarships and the individuals and organizations which created and fund the scholarships.

NECC President John R. Dimitry said, "This scholarship ceremony is an ideal opportunity to highlight the excellence and hard work of our students, as well as the very generous gifts and good will which make these scholarships possible."

The event highlighted a significant number of the major scholarships available to NECC students. Eligibility criteria vary among scholarships and include grade point average, academic achievement, community service, financial need, and career field.

"Over 50 percent of our students require some sort of financial assistance. These scholarship recipients represent high achieving, committed, deserving leaders of tomorrow. We and they are very grateful for the efforts and assistance of others which make their education possible," said Dimitry.

### Editors transfer

Several long-time editors moved on to New England journalism and other programs this fall, while one other now works for the *Boston Herald*.

Former co-editor Robert Comeau is now attending Amherst College majoring in English while co-editor Jon Morris is majoring in Journalism at nearby UMass/Amherst.

Staffers Penny Starks and Julia Fairclough have transferred to Boston University's College of Communications.

Bill Burke was recently hired full-time to work at the *Herald* night desk, making him the first staffer to work at the Boston tabloid since former *Observer* staffer Dan Lyons worked there many years ago.

# POW-MIA flag returns

## Local veterans satisfied with governor's decision

By ERIC LUNDIN
*Observer Editor*

In response to a letter from Gov. William Weld, NECC President John R. Dimitry raised the Prisoner of War-Missing in Action (POW-MIA) flag on the Haverhill campus, recently.

Controversy surrounding Dimitry's previous decision to remove the flag persisted for weeks as local veterans and the school community voiced dissatisfaction.

Lawmakers also urged Dimitry to recant his position, but it was not until he received an official letter from Weld that he changed his mind.

"The governor is chief executive officer of the state and I am a state employee," Dimitry said. "Whether I agree with it or not, the governor gave his advice and I will follow it."

**Unclear:** Although the response from Weld did not give a straightforward answer, Dimitry interpreted the answer as one in support of raising the flag.

"I believe that most Americans share my sentiment that the POW-MIA flag is deserving the utmost respect until all questions about our men still missing in action have been answered satisfactorily," Weld wrote.

Now that the flag is back, campus veterans voiced satisfaction over Dimitry's reversal.

"I think it's great," said Bill Gilbert, member of the Veteran's Outreach Center. "I don't think he had any right to take it down in the first place."

Veteran's Servicepersons Organization (VSO) secretary William G. Poulin, said, "I am very happy to find out that the flag is flying again. I feel that there was just a misunderstanding in the procedure."

**Restored**

*M. Harrington photo*

**TO THE DELIGHT of many supporters, the POW-MIA flag flies again on the Haverhill campus of NECC.**

**Unanticipated:** Support for the POW-MIA flag engulfed NECC as campus organizations such as the board of trustees and the NECC faculty association pressured the president. But Dimitry said he did not foresee the overwhelming campus and state reaction that followed the removal of the POW-MIA flag, although he should have.

"Form is much more important in the minds of some people," he said. "History is replete with people killing themselves over symbols and forms and I should have understood that."

Now that the flag has been returned, Dimitry still believes he made the correct decision to take it down over the summer.

"The correct thing, of course, was to never fly the flag," he said. "But that's water over the dam."

**Pending decree:** The state legislature is now in the process of passing a bill into law requiring the raising of the POW-MIA flags on the grounds of all state buildings. According to the president's office, only half of all state colleges currently fly the POW-MIA flag.

So far, the bill, adopted by Sen. James P. Jajuga, Rep. Brian S. Dempsey, Rep. Marie Louise Kehoe and Rep. Thomas G. Palumbo has gained 56 co-sponsors, Poulin said.

Nancy Sabin, VSO adviser, said this many co-sponsors of a bill in the state house is very unusual.

"The law will never run out," said VSO president Kevin Gearty. "It will be a lasting memorial. It's a piece of legislation that will go down in history."

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# Computers – from page 1

searchers use at the college are available.

**Tough job:** "Everything that was broken was given to me to fix," Fallon said. "It was my idea to put up the curtain to allow the students and teachers the privacy they needed."

He said the problems have occurred due to mix-ups with Pappas Co., the company that won the bid to make and install the curtain. He said the decision to go with Pappas was based on the fact they had done good work for the college in the past and their price was reasonable. He said communication errors had occurred with the color and shape of the curtain, leading to the lengthy delays.

Hawrylciw said the situation was so bad last year that Mac students were ready to "go on strike" until the curtain was put up.

"The strike was postponed because we thought the curtain would be up this summer. It's October now and it still isn't up," he said.

**Situation in hand?** "There was no movement in that situation for a year," said Fallon. "As soon as I got here I got the ball rolling. I have been pushing Pappas as much as I can, and at this point and time it is out of our hands."

The less tangible problem with the Macintosh and other computer labs is the serious lack of walk-in time for students.

"They're scheduling too many classes," Meldrum said. "Any time the scheduler sees an empty space, they schedule a class. Any time you schedule classes, you are taking walk-in time away."

"I understand it is not fair to the students," Fallon said. "We are working to solve this problem. We have a computer task force which meets every other week whose job it is to assess the computer situation in the academic, administrative and research areas."

**Money decisions:** He said the task force's job is to decide where the budget money will be appropriated in terms of new hardware, software and labs.

"President Dimitry has approved $51,000 for a new IBM PC lab next year," he said. "Because of the budget problems NECC is having, I feel very good about that. We have a five-year capital plan and the president has been very helpful in that respect."

A state of the art Mac lab was purchased for the Lawrence campus this summer, containing 15 new computers and assorted hardware. Students complain that since only two sections of classes are taught there, more attention should have been paid to the lacking conditions in Haverhill.

"I will not drive to Lawrence to take the course there; that's stupid when I'm taking all of my courses here (in Haverhill)," Sesak said.

**Desperate measures:** Other students find themselves frustrated enough with the availability of the Macs that they end up going to Lawrence to use the available computers.

"There's a woman in one of the classes who takes a cab to Lawrence every week," said Meldrum. "She's prepared to pay for that just because she can work on the computers for eight hours at a time."

Fallon said the problem lies in the definite need to improve both the IBM and the Mac labs, and that attention must be paid to both. He said he would like to meet the needs of everyone on campus but regardless, there would be people dissatisfied with whatever decision he makes.

"We will make investments with the money we have, which is limited," he said. "It will be done on a competitive basis based on the needs of everyone involved. I am absolutely not ruling out fixing up the Mac lab, however, we have to have the input from those who are not satisfied and so far, we haven't had it."

**Computer competition:** Meldrum said IBM users and Mac users are like "cattlemen against the sheepherders" and that perhaps in order for the Mac lab to be improved, a Macintosh voice must be present on Fallon's task force. She said at the present time there is no such voice.

Latourelle would certainly like to see a voice for the Macintosh program on the committee.

"The program here is like a child to myself and the others who helped build it," she said. "We've watched it grow and we have been proud of it all along. We don't want to see it get overlooked and neglected and it just seems like it is. The lab here should be as good as the one in Lawrence."

## Crowded house

***"They have two classes in the same room," said Mary Sesak. "It's like Russia in here. I'd like to get a half tuition refund because I can only hear half of what (my teacher) says."***

## Prize recipients

*S. Smulski photo*

**RAFFLE WINNERS of the Get With It Week Scavenger Hunt collect their goods. From left, Michael Conrad, liberal arts, $25 gift certificate to Kingston House Restaurant; West Bailey, medical equipment repair and technical program, personal safety items package; Faith Thompson, liberal arts, Elegante limousine service and dinner for two at Scandia Restaurant; Tracy Riopelle, liberal arts, $25 gift certificate to Pond View Restaurant.**

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## Tax — from page1

rates.

Because the law can be changed at any time, she said Mass. voters should not approve the amendment, which will ultimately raise taxes.

Of the proposed Tax Structure Law, Anderson said, "I know it's a trick to get the amendment passed. Once it's in, they can increase taxes one bracket at a time so only one group of taxpayers will be upset at a time."

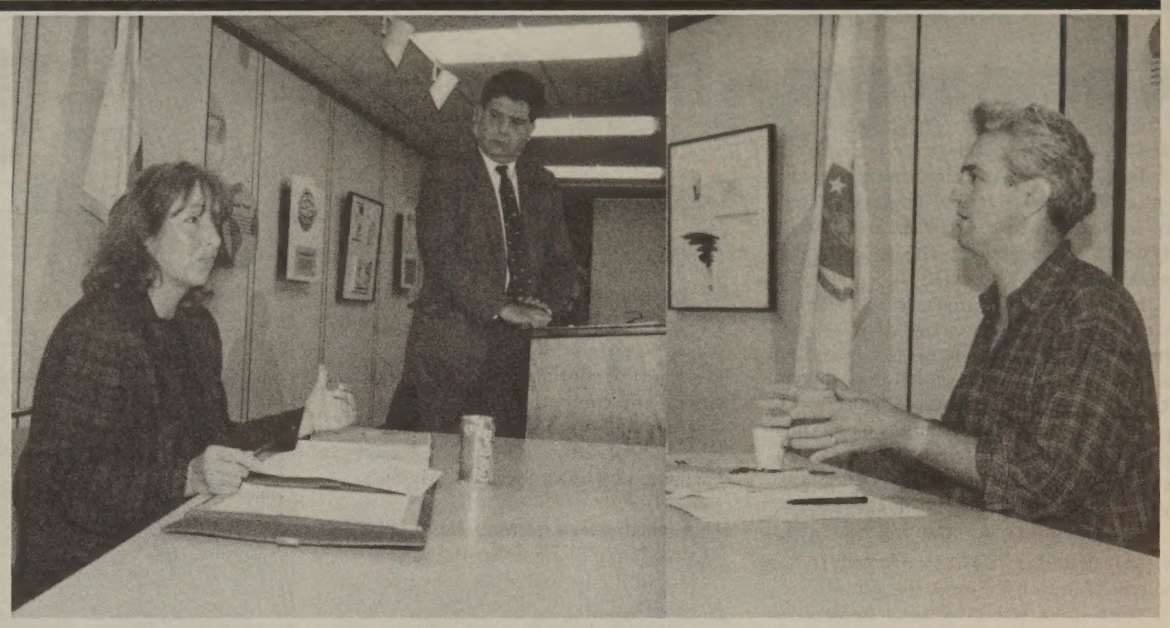
Braude said graduated income tax is reality in every Western nation, including the United States, and in 35 of the 42 states that have income taxes.

He said the proposed cuts will put $500 million into the pockets of low- and middle-income residents, which will in turn be spent locally and help local economies.

**People's choice:** "It will be different this time, because the voters will have full information," he said.

If proponents are successful in obtaining the required 70,000 signatures, this will be the fifth time since 1960 this question has appeared on a referendum ballot. If approved, the graduated tax would go into effect in 1995.

The Mass. House and Senate approved the proposed amendment in November 1992. Most Essex County legislators voted with their parties on this issue. Democrats, including Sen. James Jajuga and Reps. Brian Dempsey and Kevin Blanchette voted "yes," while Republicans including Sen. Robert Buell and Rep. Thomas Palumbo voted "no."



**Going head to head**

*S. LaChance photo illustration*

**IN A DEBATE sponsored by the Haverhill Democratic City Committee, Barbara Anderson and Jim Braude discuss the pros and cons of the 1994 graduated income tax ballot question. Moderator Jim Fiorentini, center, watches the action in the Bentley Library.**

# Crime spree spurs warning about car thefts

By PAUL CARTEIRO
*Observer Staff Reporter*

An outbreak of automobile theft and vandalism has plagued NECC this semester.

During the first month of school, there have been six car break-ins and three cars stolen from the Haverhill campus. The Lawrence campus has had one car broken into in a parking lot, one car stolen and one broken into on an adjacent street, said Joseph H. Brown, dean of administration.

One incident involved a staff members' car which was stolen in Lawrence and found on Haverhill campus. Another car was stolen three spaces down from where it was found.

Brown warns all students, staff and visitors to be aware of the problem and to take all necessary steps to help prevent their cars from being stolen or vandalized.

For both cases in the Lawrence thefts, car phones were stolen. Brown thinks the cars' contents seem to be part of the problem.

**Tightened protection:** As a result of increasing crime, Brown has stepped up security on the Haverhill campus. Two patrol cars will be used when the college is in heavy use until the vandalism and theft decreases.

Students should also take part in watching out for suspicious activities in the parking lots, such as loitering or smashed windows, and by making sure valuable equipment in cars is covered, Brown said.

Brown said students or staff members should report any suspicious activity to the security office at ext. 2222.

# Make the World Your Classroom

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**For more information, contact:**
**Dr. Usha Sellers, Director, Study Abroad Programs**
**Northern Essex Community College, Elliott Way, Haverhill, Mass 01830**
**508–374–3969**

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The Division of Continuing Education and Community Services Counseling component provides academic and transfer counseling to students during the day, but primarily evenings through the DCE & CS Office B-204 at extension 3800. Liaison work with extension campuses, agencies and businesses in the community are involved.

The Transfer Counseling program facililates informed, selective student transfer decisions for colleges and promotes transfer articulation for students both days and evenings.

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Betty Coyne, Counseling Administrator
Marian Clay, Counseling Secretary

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**Haverhill Campus**

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Tuesday 1 p.m.–4:30 p.m.

Carol Speranza,
Masters Candidate in Counseling Psychology Lesley College
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, 9 a.m –2 p.m.

Kathryn Ayoob,
Masters Candidate in Counseling Psychology at Antioch College
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Thursday & Friday 9 a.m–4 p.m.

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Carol Speranza, Monday, 9 a.m.–2 p.m.
Kathryn Ayoob, Monday, 1 p.m.–4 p.m.

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**Haverhill Campus**: Goal Setting
Discuss new effective strategies for getting what you want in
every area of your life for more balance, success and contentment.
Tuesdays, Noon to 1 p.m. Beginning To be held Sept. 28
Facilitated by Carol Speranza, Master's Candidate

**Assertiveness for Men and Women**

At times all of us are either too aggressive, passive or noncommital when assertiveness is needed. Learn how and when to better assert yourself.
Thursdays, 1 to 2 p.m. Beginning Sept. 30
Facilitated by Kathyrn Ayoob and Carol Speranza, Masters Candidates

**Relationships**

In a small group setting, learn to identify and effectively
address needs and issues that arise in relationships.
Fridays, 11 a.m. to Noon Beginning Oct. 1
Facilitated by Jane Bradley, Personal Counselor

**Mental Health Technology Group**

Facilitated by Kathryn Ayoob, Masters Candidate
Fridays Noon to 1 p.m. Beginning Oct. 1

**Grief and Loss**

Learn how to more effectively deal with it, express it and share it as a personal growth transition.
Wednesdays, Noon to 1 p.m. Beginning Sept. 29
Facilitated by Carol Speranza, Masters Candidate

**Let's Look at Anger**

Encounter the emotion of anger as constructive energy, and discover more effective ways to communicate needs to ourselves and others.
Wednesdays, 1 to 2 p.m. Beginning Sept. 29
Facilitated by Carol Speranza , Masters Candidate

**Women and Self Esteem**

Through discussion and structured activities explore myths and truths about women and self esteem. Learn strategies for enhancing self esteem.
Tuesdays, 2 to 3:30 p.m.Beginning Sept. 28
Facilitated by M.J. Pernaa, Coordinator of Career Development

**Lawrence Campus**: Cultural Diversity

Explore your awareness, perceptions, feelings and appreciation for the diversity and richness of different cultures.
Mondays, 2 to 3 p.m. Beginning Sept. 27,
Facilitated by Kathyrn Ayoob, Masters Candidate

**Freshmen Nursing Group**

Mondays, 10:15 to 11:30 a.m. Beginning Sept. 27
Facilitated by Carol Speranza, Masters Candidate

**Women Returning to School**: A Support Group

Discuss issues and strategize solutions in areas such as increased demands on time, setting priorities, managing stress, making decisions and adjusting to college life.
Mondays, Noon to 1 p.m. Beginning Sept. 27
Facilitated by Carol Speranza, Masters Candidate
Haverhill & Lawrence Campus

**Stress Management**

A practical presentation, discussion and application of techniques designed to manage and reduce stress.
Haverhill: Mondays, 11 to Noon Beginning Sept. 27
Lawrence: Mondays, 1 to 2 p.m. Beginning Sept. 27
Facilitated by Kathyrn Ayoob, Masters Candidate

To sign up for any of the above listed groups,
contact the Counseling Center
by calling (508) 374-3790
or come by F121 in the Student Center.
The Counseling Department is also available to provide groups for interested students. Please contact the Counseling Center for any additional groups.

**Transfer Counseling**: Days

Betty Coyne, Counseling Administrator and Transfer Coordinator
For information and/or appointments please call 374-3790 or come to the Counseling Center.

**Evenings**

Janet O'Keeffe, DCE & CS Counselor
For transfer information and/or appointments please call 374-3800 or come to DCE & CS Office, B204.

Division of Continuing Education & Community Services Counseling
Janet O'Keeffe, DCE & CS Counselor
Monday and Wednesday 12:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
Tuesday and Thursday 10:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.
Friday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Tom O'Brien, DCE Counselor
Tuesday and Thursday 4 p.m. to 8 p.m.
*Works in cooperation with Janet O'Keeffe

To make appointments
please call 374-3800 or come to the DCE and CS Office, B204.

**Transfer College Day**

Tuesday, Nov. 23, 1993
10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
College Cafeteria
54 colleges represented

College Catalogs, Transfer Applications, and Transfer Packets with faculty recommendation forms are available in the Counseling Center, F121, Student Center.

**Career Counseling**

M. J. Pernaa, Coordinator of Career Development

**Haverhill Campus**: Career Connections Workshops:
Connect your interests and personality to NECC Majors and Careers.
Thursday, Sept. 30, Noon-1 p.m.
Friday, Oct. 8, 10-11 a.m.
Tuesday, Oct. 26, 10-11 a.m.
Thursday, Nov. 4, 3-4 p.m.
Monday, Nov. 15, 1-2 p.m.
Thursday, Dec. 9, Noon-1 p.m.

**Haverhill & Lawrence Campuses**: Career Decision Workshops:
Every Wednesday 12:30 p.m.-5 p.m.
Starting Sept. 29
To sign up for a career workshop
or to make an appointment please call 374-3790 or come to the Counseling Center, F-121, Student Center

**THE SHIFTERS**

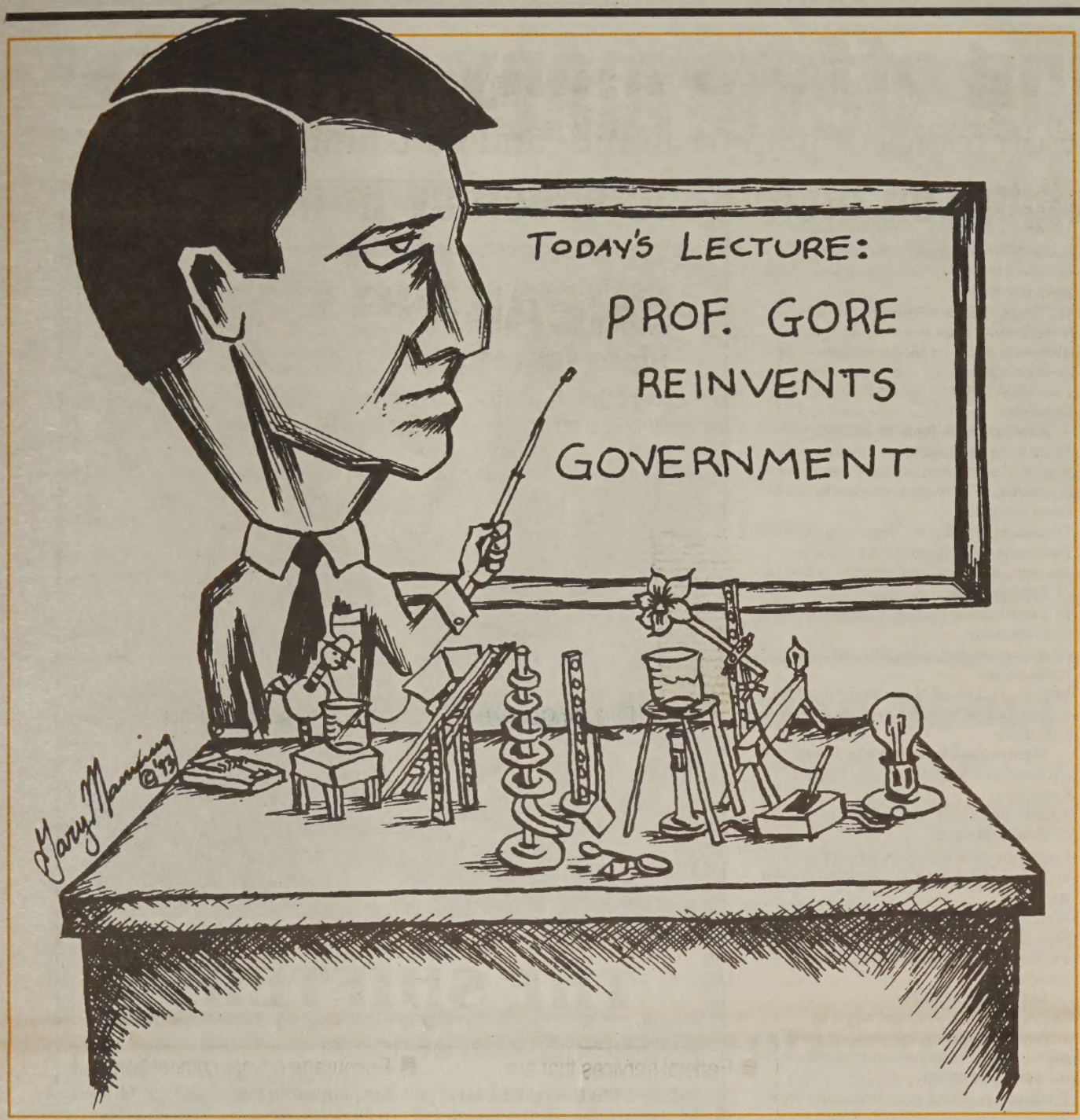
**Appearing soon at noon**

*File photo*

**THE SHIFTERS, long-time local favorites, are set to play a gig Oct. 18 from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. in the cafeteria.**

**We like to get it right**

The **NECC** Observer will correct any error on its pages. To report an error, call us at 374-3900, ext. 2634. Thanks for your support!




# Gore atte

## National Perform

By ERIC LUNDIN
*Observer Editor*

As a result of President Bill Clinton's call for change in American politics, an extensive six-month review of how to cut wasteful spending and governmental red tape has ended.

The National Performance Review (NPR), a 200-member task force headed by Vice President Al Gore, sought to solve the growing problem of big government in the report, *From Red Tape To Results: Creating A Government That Works Better and Costs Less*. The plan offers a long-term commitment to making government more efficient and projects a $108 billion savings over five years.

Gore stresses his plan to "reinvent government" is a bipartisan effort, not about political ideologies. In fact, most of the proposals found in the NPR report are concepts created by both Democrats and Republicans, said Rep. Peter Torkildsen (R-Mass.).

**Ideology free:** "This performance review is not about politics," said President Clinton when he announced the creation of the NPR.

"Programs passed by Democratic presidents and Republican presidents, voted on by members of Congress of both parties, and supported by the American people at the time, are being undermined by an inefficient and outdated bureaucracy, and by our huge debt.... We want to make improving the way government does business a permanent part of how government works, regardless of which party is in power."

Creation of the NPR on March 3, 1993 was an answer to waning public confidence in the effectiveness of the national government. A recent Associated Press poll found 95 percent of Americans think the federal government wastes too much money.

"Bigness engenders waste – it just happens," said John McDonald, professor, department of history and government. "It's a fact of life."

**Jurassic park:** Gore says the reason Washington is sinking into the tar pit of red ink is because organizations rooted there work for an outdated environment. Bureaucracies of an older age responded well to a slow, hierarchical system, but in today's world of rapid response, these organizations don't meet present standards of efficiency.

Now the plans have been drawn to bring America into the 21st century. The NPR is based on the following principles, vowing to improve the national government by:

- ❑ cutting unnecessary spending;
- ❑ serving its customers;
- ❑ empowering its employees;
- ❑ helping communities solve their own problems; and
- ❑ fostering excellence.

Washington places far too great an emphasis on how things should be done, the NPR reports. Because federal agencies are dealing with the public's tax dollars, Congress is very specific in how they are to be spent. This is responsible for massive amounts of red tape that not only wastes time and money, but restricts federal workers from doing their jobs.

**Flush the fashion:** In outlined steps, the NPR plans to abolish the red tape strangling federal employees. By removing restrictions that

# Local reaction to plan varies

## Reinventing government proposal supported with caution

By ERIC LUNDIN
*Observer Editor*

Skepticism and hope summate public reaction towards Vice President Al Gore's vow to reinvent government.

Plans to cut red tape and make the federal government work more efficiently has gained much support from congressmen on Capital Hill. Optimism for the program's success is the general consensus among law makers.

"The concept of reducing and streamlining the federal bureaucracy is something which I will always support, and I am pleased to see the Administration place a high priority on it," said Sen. Judd Gregg (R-N.H.).

Rep. Peter Torkildsen (R-Mass.) said, "I'm glad that the vice president is committed and I hope we will get some significant results from it."

**Conflicting beliefs:** Although senators and representatives speak of the plan's success, the American public remains a bit more cynical. In lieu of past attempts of commissions dedicated to rid the country from government waste, such as Ronald Reagan's Grace Commission, people welcome change but won't hold their breath.

"Nobody is going to reinvent this mess," said Mary Harada, professor, department of history and government.

"These efforts come and go and some things do change, but the change won't be radical."

John McDonald, professor, department of history and government, said, "I'm delighted to see this big effort. I'm sure it will come to some good, but I'm skeptical."

The fate of the Grace Commission, which succumbed to Congressional apathy, may not be repeated due to Gore's involvement with the National Performance Review (NPR), said McDonald.

"A lot of the tough decisions have a better chance of being made, having the clout of the vice president's office behind it," he said.

The executive branch can implement a lot of Gore's proposals through executive order, said McDonald. "(Clinton) just has to be politically courageous."

**Future goals:** The NPR suggests savings over a five-year period would amount to an estimated $108 billion. This has been viewed as a starting point for greater future change, not as a cure-all to reinvent government immediately.

"It should be viewed as a starting point," Torkildsen said. "If we look at this as a continuing process we should save more in the long run."

Harada said, "I think it would be great if they could do it. If it were more, it would be great, but we should take what we can get."

"Government changes very slowly," said NECC President John R. Dimitry. "I certainly hope they will attempt to do something significant, but given what happened to the Grace Commission, I don't know."

**Speed bump:** Congress' role in the passage of legislation remains a large stumbling block in the acceptance of the review's proposals. As a result of the Clinton Administration lobbying for votes on the budget and health care, many elements of the plan may suffer, said McDonald.

"There's going to be a lot of horse treading," he said.

Another area of concern is that the NPR's findings will not appear as a general package, but rather as a number of additions to certain Congressional bills and presidential directives.

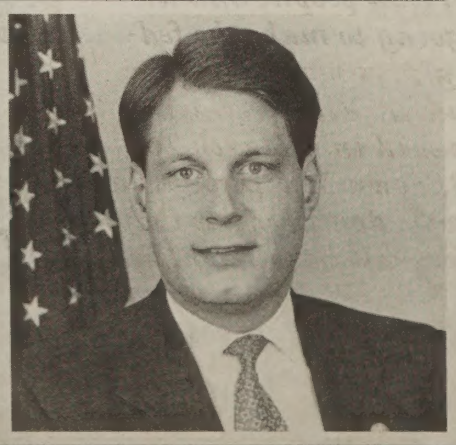
"Gridlock lives and I blame this on both sides of the isle," Harada said. "It's going to take a massive package. You break it into pieces and it will vanish from the public's sight."

Overall, the effort to make government less wasteful is inarguably appealing. Whether or not the review reaps the lofty goals it has set will remain to be seen.

"I bet a six-pack if they get half of it, it would be a raging success," McDonald said.

### Capital support

***"I'm glad that the vice president is committed and I hope we will get some significant results from it," said Rep. Peter Torkildsen (R-Mass.).***



### Local analysis

***"Nobody is going to reinvent this mess," said Mary Harada, professor, department of history and government. "These efforts come and go and some things do change, but the change won't be radical."***

# tempts to cut government waste

## mance Review sets sights on bloated bureaucracy in new report

consume managers' time, decentralizing personnel policy, and eliminating regulations, Gore wants to put control back into the companies and away from the central government.

"(Employees) cannot be treated like automatons or children bound up in straight jackets and rules and regulations and told to do the same thing over and over again," Gore said.

But Gore may face a battle on Capital Hill in his attempts to streamline the red tape of the budget process, Torkildsen said. The NPR plans to institute biennial budgets and appropriations instead of enacting a budget every year.

The report argues, "(Biennial budgeting) will eliminate an enormous amount of busy work that keeps us from evaluating programs and meeting customer needs."

**Territorial boundaries:** The problem lies with the fact Congress feels it is their job to require all government agencies to come before them once a year, said Torkildsen .

"In doing away with annual appropriations there will definitely be some opposition," he said.

The NPR is also concerned with the American people getting the most for their tax money. An extensive revamping of the federal system will allow customers with higher standards of efficiency and a better feeling that government is working for them, the report states.

"We are going to rationalize the way the federal government relates to the American people, and we are going to make the federal government customer friendly," Gore said in a March 26, 1993, Town Meeting. "A lot of people don't realize that the federal government has customers. We have customers. The American people."

**New and improved:** To increase customer service standards the NPR will effect the way the Internal Revenue Service (IRS), the Social Security Administration (SSA) and the United States Postal Service (USPS) operates.

As part of the IRS's standards, a paper return will be refunded within 40 days, while an electronic return will have refunds sent within 14 days when specifying direct deposit, 21 days when requesting a check. By 1995, the NPR states IRS forms and instructions will be so clear that individual tax returns will be 90 percent error-free.

Customer service standards for the SSA claim customers will reach the administration the first time the 800 number is tried, while the USPS not only suggests first class mail will be delivered anywhere in the United States within three days but customers will receive service within five minutes of waiting at the counter.

"Government should strive to be customer friendly," said NECC President John R. Dimitry. "It should be reinvented and modernized."

**Serve the servants:** As of April, the government employed 2.1 million non-postal civil service workers integrated into 14 cabinet departments, 135 agencies and hundreds of boards and commissions, the NPR said.

By empowering lower-level employees and decentralizing decision making power the review hopes government will run more smoothly. By updating technology, the NPR wishes to arm federal employees with the equipment to perform their tasks more efficiently.

In a section of the report entitled, "Cutting Back To Basics," the NPR provides a large laundry list of agencies and appropriations that should be eliminated.

"We'll challenge the basic assumptions of every program, asking does it work, does it provide quality service, does it encourage innovation and reward hard work," said President Clinton on March 3, 1993.

"If the answer is no, or if there's a better way to do it or if there's something the federal government is doing, it should simply stop doing, we'll try to make the changes needed."

**Reducing refuse:** Among some of the changes the NPR felt needed were:

- ❑ The Department of Agriculture will close or consolidate 1,200 field offices;
- ❑ the United States Information Agency will cut the number of libraries and reference centers it pays for overseas;
- ❑ suspend the acquisition of new federal office space; and
- ❑ eliminate federal support payments for wool and mohair.

Another goal reflected in the NPR's proposal includes a 12 percent job cut in the federal work force. This would equate to 252,000 non-postal civil service workers. Gore insists this reduction of employees can easily be met through buy-outs and attrition.

To back up this claim, Office of Personnel Management figures show 113,223 civil service employees in 1992 left their jobs through retirement or voluntary reasons. If most of these jobs went unfilled, the goal may be obtainable.

**Tentative marriage:** Also, the NPR will attempt to merge the functions of the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms (ATF) into the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), saving between an estimated $63 million and $83 million yearly.

Today the DEA and FBI find themselves in direct competition over many cases. Gore says instead of failing to cooperate with each other, the agencies should unite. This proposal has been met with much opposition, however.

The DEA argues it dwarfs the rate of convictions over FBI drug related statistics by 6 to 1 and 3 to 1 in assets seized. Attorney General Janet Reno has also asked for her own study on the matter, ignoring the efforts of Gore and his commission. Not a new argument on Capital Hill, four different attorney generals have studied merging the agencies without result.

The suggestions included in the mammoth report will not appear in the legislature as a package. Instead, it will be broken up among the different levels of government.

**Chain reaction:** Gore suggests solutions await implementation by presidential directives, guidance from the Office of Management and Budget and through the help of Congress.

Change won't happen overnight, Gore says. To change one's political culture, modification must occur gradually, with firm commitment.

To bring about this change, the NPR plans to continue, according to *From Red Tape To Results: Creating Government That Works Better and Costs Less*:

- ❑ a cascading process of education, participation and ownership at the highest levels of the executive branch;
- ❑ two-way communication with federal employees and their organizations;
- ❑ bipartisan partnership with Congress
- ❑ process to listen to and use feedback from customers and citizens; and
- ❑ government-wide mechanisms to monitor, coordinate and facilitate plans for reinvention.

If blueprint for change is followed, the NPR stands confident in the belief that their vision for a better, more efficient government can be achieved.

"This performance review will not produce another report just to gather dust in some warehouse," said President Clinton announcing the formation of the review.

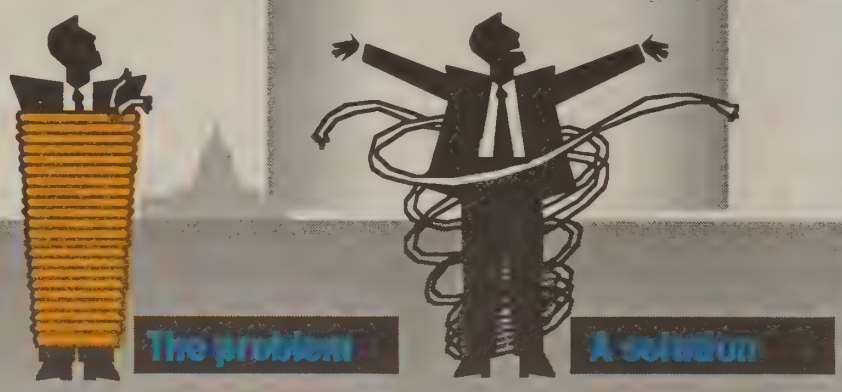
"We have enough of them already."

*Editor's note: The quotes provided by President Bill Clinton and Vice President Al Gore were obtained from the National Performance Review's report, "From Red Tape To Results: Creating A Government That Works Better And Costs Less."*

## BREAKING FREE

### Ideas for reforming government

Vice President Gore heads the Clinton administration's task force for "reinventing" the federal agencies. Some of his team's proposals:

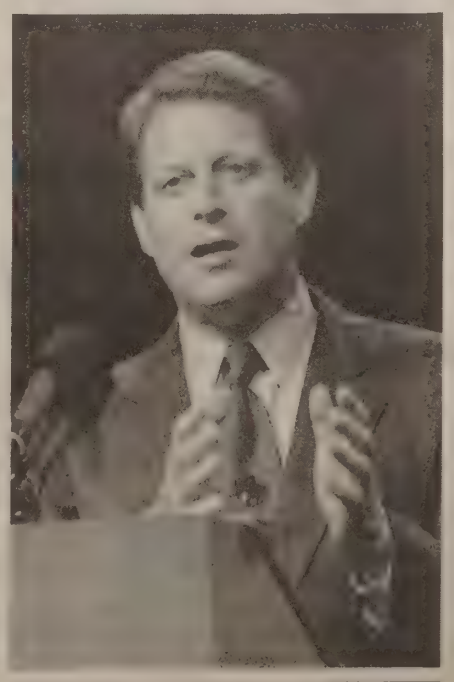



| | |
|---|---|
| ■ Federal red tape and over-regulation stifle creativity | ■ Reduce tight control over federal officials by inspectors general, White house budget examiners and congressional overseers. |
| ■ Federal bureaucrats aren't encouraged – or able – to make government work better or cost less. | ■ Simplify personnel and purchasing rules; give officials more independent hiring, firing and spending power; reward efficiency with pay and promotions |
| ■ Federal services that are monopolies are delivered badly; there's no pressure to improve. | ■ Encourage private competition for federal printing, travel, real estate management, weather forecasting. |
| ■ Occupational Health and Safety Administration has 2,400 inspectors to protect 92 million workers at 6.2 million work sites. | ■ Let employers certify workplace health and safety unless OSHA suspects problems. |
| ■ The average federal check costs 36¢ to write; an electronic funds transfer costs 6¢. | ■ Encourage Internal Revenue, Social Security and Veterans Administration to make payments electronically. |
| ■ Out-of-date air traffic control system wastes $2 billion a year in flight delays. | ■ Let airlines build and run a new new air traffic control system to replace the FAA's. |

KRT Infographics/JEFF DIONISE

### Leading the charge

***"We are going to rationalize the way the federal government relates to the American people, and we are going to make the federal government customer friendly," Vice President Al Gore said in a March 26, 1993, Town Meeting. "A lot of people don't realize that the federal government has customers. We have customers. The American people."***



# Dean's list announced

**A**

Donna Abrahams, Paul Ackerman, Teresa Adames, Cybill Adams, Juan Alcantara, Bridgette Allard, Laurel Alley, Carmen Almonte, Justa Yleana Almonte, Brett Amundsen, Olga Anderson, Jon Andrews, Joanna Andrukaitis, Shauna Angove, Stephanie Antanavich, Elie Antar, James Anthony, Poppy Arakelian, Jason Araujo, Dennia Arias, Agueda Arriaga, Elizabeth Arsenault, Lori Avery

**B**

Gail Bacheller, Kim Bailey, Valerie Baird, Niurka Balbuena, Maryanne Balogna, Christine Barker, Lori Barone, Brian Basiliere, Kristie Batchelder, Melanie Bayko, Ryan Beal, Jennifer Belmonte, Julie Bemis, Roberta Bergeron, Kathryn Bernier, Christine Beshara, Ana Betances, Pravina Bhalani, Karin Bielecki, Marie-Noel Bijjani, John Billy, Charlene Blair, Christine Blais, Linda Blanchet, Scott Blanchette, Brenda Borgerding-Buck, Julie Bornstein, Cindy Bouchard, Michelle Bouchard, Richard Bouchard, Paul Boucher, Rachel Bousnakis, Konstantina Bouzianis, Shane Bower, Stephanie Bradley, Wilfred Bradley, Kelly Bradshaw, Margaret Breen-Turner, Heidi Breitwieser, Frances Broadnax, Kimberly Brown, Tammy Brown, Marloe Bruno, Janice Bucci, Sharon Buco, Sonya Budd, Jonathan Burke, Michael Burke, Raguel Burnham, Jennifer Butt, Nancy Butterworth

**C**

Yohanni Cabral, Martha Cabrera, Miguelina Cabrera, Dale Cailler, Mary Calnan, Patricia Cantone, Melinda Canty, Agueda Capo, Judith Carabine, Marina Cardoso, David Carey, Trisha Carey, Chistopher Carr, Marilyn Castro, Greg Cayer, Gina Censullo, Lisa Chapman, Fern Chase, Jennifer Chase, Allison Chasse, Donna Childs, Melanie Christon, Frances Cicciarella, Carol Clark, Robbyn Clark, Victor Coelho, Antonio Collao, Christopher Comeau, Robert Conley, Jennifer Connolly, Patrick Connolly, Damarys Contreras, Christine Cooke, Cheryl Coolen, Philip Coombs, Julio Correa, Ann Costa, Veronica Courtemanche, Kimberly Craib, Edward Crespo, Jamie Crespo, Brenda Cronin, Clara Crowell, Yohanni Cuevas, Colin Cunney, Elizabeth Cunningham, Julie Cunningham, Ellen Curcio, Jeffrey Curley, Susan Currier, Terry Cusick

**D**

James Daley Jr., Clair Daly, Michael D'Angelo, Tara D'Angelo, Marilyn Daniel, Marie Daou, Lorinda Darling, William Darmody, Kathryn Dastoli, Deborah Davis, Paul Davis, Maria Day, Sharon Decubellis, Michael DeFeo, Cheryl Dehullu, Ercilia De La Cruz, John DeLano, Maria DeLeon, Marina Delle Chiaie, Denise DeLucia, Jennifer DeMatos, Elena Demeris, Francine Demers, Kanella Denoncourt, Cari-Ann Desharnais, Dennis Desroches, Katherine Deveau, Philip Devlin, Carla DeWitt, Nilda Diaz, Kimberly Dickinson, Minh Diep, Christine Dillman, Amy Dionne, Sheri Distefano, Chuong Do, Toi Do, Ronald Doe, Kathleen Donahue, Melissa Donahue, Rosanne Doucet, Dawn Doucette, Jane Doucette, Lisa Dow, Rhonda Dow, Lori Downer, Kathleen Doyle, Brenda Dresser, Jason Dubois, Julie Dubois, Robert Dumas, Craig Duncan, Corinne Dunn, Mark Durney

**E**

Lewis Eaton, Mark English

**F**

Joseph Fagan, Julia Fairclough, Jonathan Farrell, Tara-Ann Fasulo, Caroline Faulkingham, Timothy Fay, Lisa Fazio, Jane Feltham, Colleen Feoli, Tami Ferreira, Julio Fiallo, Michael Finnegan, Jennifer Fleming, Wendy Forgione, George Forte, Deborah Foss, Jennifer Lee Fossarelli, Mark Foynes, Joel Frankel, Patrick Frawley, Clifford Freeman

**G**

Irene Gablosky, John Gaffny, Kaleigh Gagne, Marcia Gallagher, Mary-Jo Gallagher, Ansia Galva, Julio Garcia, Maria Garcia, Laura Garlington, Elizabeth Garrett, Evelyn Gaud, Elaine Gaudette, Kevin Gearty, Dionisio Genao, Diane Geyer, Tricia Gigliotti, William Gilbert, Cheri Gillis, Jolanta Gillis, Alison Gilman, Donna Giusti, Daniel Glass, Paula Glen, Susan Gonsalves, Anny Gonzalez, Regina Gooding, Laura Goodrow, Sandra Goudreault, Shauna Graham, Suzanne Graham, David Grandmaison, Lori Grasso, Russell Greenwood, Guy Gregson, Christian Greig, Betty Griffiths, Jonathan Grove, Eric Grue, Mercedes Guzman

**H**

Jinad Hachem, Marcella Hahn, Robyn Hale, Patricia Halloran-Evans, Victoria Hamblet, Alicia Hamlett, Dennis Hansbury, Patricia Harmon, Kerrilynn Harris, Kimberly Hart, Aaron Haselton, Amy Hawkes, Holly Hayes, Tracy Hayes, Sandra Hayward, Parry Headrick, Sally Hebert, John Hennessy, Kelly Herdegen, Kahllua Herlihy, Adoracion Hernandez-Lopez, Linda Herrera, Amy Hill, Cam Ho, Da-Thuy Ho, Thanh Ho, Triet Ho, Truyen Ho, Vi Ho, John Holt, Joanne Hooper, Linda Hopkins, Michelle Houle, Pamela Houle, Douglas Howes, Deborah Huberdeau, Patricia Hucksam, Mark Hudson, Carol Hurn, Robert Huse

**I**

Faith Infinger

**J**

Julie Jacques, Kasia Januszewski, Michael Janvrin, Michael Jean, Peter Jegorow, Philip Jenks, Colleen Jensen, Kathleen Jensen, Yesenia Jerez, Juana Jiminez, Luisa Jiminian, Christine Johnson, Christopher Jones, Joyce Jones

**K**

Korin Kane, Eun Kang, Tara Katsimpa, Charlene Keating, John Keeler, Barry Keith, Peter Kellan, Patricia Kellerer, Robert Kennedy, James Kenney, Jason Kent, Sherri Kerrigan, Matthew Kerton, Thomas Keyes, Marcia Kiley-Mclean, Chul Kim, Laura King, Susan Kingsley, Kathleen Klufts, Kimberly Knapp, Karen Knox, Dawn Kolifrath, Norma Kolifrath, Mariann Kosar, Elena Kothman

**L**

Christine La Carbonara, Stephen Lagace, Gina Lagana, Julianne Lamattina, Susan Lambert, Eleni Lambropoulos, Lance Lancey, Karin Landry, Daniel Lane, Jr., Debra Lanza, Elida Lara, Kenneth LeBlanc, Christopher Leclair, Jeffrey Lefebre, Nancy Leonard, Marc Levesque, Gregory Lewis, Landra Lewis, Stephen Libertini, Kathleen Lindner, Isaias Liriano, Tammy Lizotte, Kristine Lloyd, Christopher Loader, Rutdy Lopez, Jerelyn Lozeau, Renee Luibil, Ana Luna, Eric Lundin, Xanh Ly

**M**

Pamela MacBurnie, Melinda MacLeod, Kathleen Madden, Annette Maguire, John Makin, Paul Manning, Randy Marchand, Andrea Marcotti, Ellen Marshall, Debra Martinez, Melanie Martinez, Misael Martinez, Cheryl Massie, Michelle Mathieu, Christopher McBride, Cynthia McCarthy, James McDaniel, Jay McDermot, Sharon McDermot, William McKibben, Edward McKinley, Scott McManus, Pamela McNally, Doris McNeil, AnnMarie McNutt, James Megathlin, Paul Megna, Julie Melanson, Nicole Melanson, Dawn Meldrum, Francia Melo, Maridalia Mendez, Alison Mendoza, Ana Mendoza, Osvaldo Mercado, Euris Mercedes, Marijke Mertinooke, Tanya Metheny, Kimberly Mignanelli, Veronica Milinazzo, Esla Minvielle-Moncla, Deborah Mireault, Christine Mitakou, Corinne Mitchell, Alexander Mitiaev, Tracey Modugno, Lori Moeckel, Lorraine Mojica, Maribel Monge, Rosa Montefusco, Ellen Moore, Francisco Mora, Ysabel Morales, Jacquelyn Moran, Jennifer Moresh, Bonnie Morgan, Christopher Morgan, Thomas Morin, Amy Morrison, Zoya Motovilova, Daniel Mueller, Wendy Mullikin, Kerry Mulvaney, Carlos Munoz, Daniel Munroe, Amanda Murphy, Terry Murphy

**N**

Peter Nadeau, Jeffrey Naroian, Anhtuan Nguyen, Chi Nguyen, Ha Nguyen, Hanh Nguyen, Hie Nguyen, Hung Nguyen, Huy Nguyen, Linh Nguyen, Long Nguyen, Phuong Nguyen, Thomas Nichols, Audrey Nicholson, Diane Nicholson, Mary Nolette, James Normandin

**O**

Penelope O'Connor, Moira O'Leary, Kevin O'Loughlin, Amy Ostrander, Elena Ostrovsky, Dianna O'Toole, Joseph Ouellette

**P**

Nicole Painchaud, David Palazzo, James Palladino, Tracy Pappalardo, Lana Paradis, German Pardo, Jessica Parr, Ian Paul, Sandra Paul, Brunilda Pena, Carmen Perdomo, Florencia Pereyra.

Maria Pereyra, Janice Pero, Christine Perreault, Douglas Perry, Frances Perry, Richard Peters, Anthony Petraitis III, Stephanie Petralia, Hoang Pham, Kimberly Plaster, Maureen Pomeroy, Barbara Ponciano, Gladys Ponciano, Jo-Anne Poore, Emily Potter, Lynne Pouliot, George Powell, Joanne Powell, Mara Powell, Tiffany Proctor, Juana Puello, Melissa Pulzetti

**Q**

Donald Quigley, Jennifer Quimby

**R**

Jeffrey Rabot, Natalia Ramirez, Jeff Ray, Nancy Reusch, Susan Reynolds, Jeanette Richardson, Glenn Rideout, Jennifer Riessle, William Riley, Ana Rios, Sean Ritchie, Ellen Rittgers, Amigda Rivera, Carmen Rivera, Janivette Rivera, Charlene Rizzotti, Nadine Roberts, Kevin Robicheau, Justina Rodriguez, Kensia Rodriguez, Kellie Rogers, Mario Rosa, Julio Rosario, Kedi Rosario, Suzanne Ross, Susan Rouleau, Elizabeth Rubin, Alyssa Rubino, Kieth Rudis, Robert Runge, Jr., Sheri Russell, Kevin Ryan

**S**

Eda Sabando, Carol Sanborn, Rosanna Sands, Armando Sangermano, Tina Santarelli, Jahayra Santiago, Michael Santoro, William Sartell, Eugene Scanlon, Deborah Schiavoni, Jillian Schleicher, Laurel Schlosser, Norah Scott, Douglas Scotti, Linda Seaman, Jason Sears, Alexandra Serrano, Stephen Serwacki, Mary Sesak, Michael Shafnacker, Thomas Shahinian, Edward Shapiro, Jason Shaw, Donald Shea.

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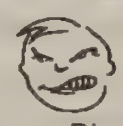

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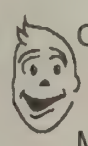

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# Musician goes solo

## Seattle star cuts release

By SCOTT FERREN
*Observer Staff Writer*

**Music** review

It's been a long time since Duff McKagan was playing drums and guitar for Seattle punk rock bands. His punk roots, and guitar/drum talents are used well on his new solo album.

*Believe In Me* contains 45 minutes of Duff, including feelings, anger, and sense of punk belligerence. Members of Guns N' Roses, Skid Row, along with Lenny Kravitz, and guitar legend Jeff Beck lend a hand too.

On songs such as *I Love You*, *Could It Be You*, *10 Years*, and *Just Not There*, McKagan tells the familiar tale of love gone awry.

"I wrap my arms around you/But all I get is icy cold," wails McKagan in *Just Not There*. And in *Could It Be You* he croons, "Could it be you/Might be my woman/Could it be you/The one that makes me feel like a man," backed by Dizzy Reed of GN'R on piano, and a 22-piece orchestra.

**First single:** *I Love You* is a slow, catchy number in which Duff plays every instrument. "It's been four months since you gone away/My bed is empty and my heart still feels the pain," McKagan sings to an acoustic/electric pairing reminiscent of REM's *Drive*.

Sebastian Bach of Skid Row makes his presence felt on *Trouble*, providing lead vocals along with band mate Snake on rhythm guitar. The hard rockin' song describes a life of angst, similar to Skid Row's *Youth Gone Wild*.

McKagan shows a slightly political side in *Beyond Belief*. "The tax man cometh and he takes all your money away/Tax bracket, what a racket/They spend it like two-bit thieves," warns McKagan to a funk-techno type beat.

The Seattle native's punk roots shine through on *Punk Rock Song*. A quick, blistering anthem that rings in at only 1:37. There's even a rock/rap combo with Doc from Haus Mob spewing out misogynist lyrics.

Six of the LP's 13 songs contain obscenities, thus carrying a parental warning sticker.

**Downside:** If there's a major fault to the album, it's most of the songs sound similar due to McKagan's monotonous vocal style. *Lonely Tonight* includes a spoken introduction that's unintentionally hilarious. The ballad comes off as an unconvincing joke.

At 20, McKagan decided competition was too stiff playing guitar, so he learned to play bass. He moved out to Los Angeles in hopes of joining a band with his new instrument. McKagan hooked up with Slash and Steven Adler under the moniker Road Crew. That band, along with two guys named Axl and Izzy, evolved into Guns N' Roses.

*Believe In Me* has been a long time coming. In the April '92 issue of *Guitar*, McKagan said of his solo effort. "It's been a dream of mine since I was 15.... And now I'm afforded the opportunity to do it."

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# Chasing the Blue and Gold

## Going for the gusto

*T. Star photo*

**THROUGH SHEER grit and determination, Rudy (Sean Astin) wins a place alongside much larger and more gifted athletes on Notre Dame's football team, above.**

**Fortune (Charles S. Dutton), the head groundskeeper at Notre Dame's football stadium, befriends and encourages Rudy, right.**

## New film portrays young man's dream

By MARY HARRINGTON
*Observer Managing Editor*

**Film** Review

Hope. Love. Belief. Victory. Based upon the true story of one young man's climb to fulfilling a lifelong dream, *Rudy* is a tale of grit and determination.

As a young boy, Daniel E. "Rudy" Ruettiger (Sean Austin) is scoffed at by his family when he announces his plans to play football at the University of Notre Dame.

He does not seem to understand their condescension; after all, it is 1960 in Joliet, Ill., where growing up in a large, Catholic family like Rudy's means Notre Dame is revered, and each Fighting Irish win is a family victory.

**Struggle:** Despite his small frame and lack of athletic ability, Rudy plays high school football. When he tries to go to board the bus to visit the university with other interested classmates, he is told by a priest that Notre Dame is not for him.

Rudy is told by everyone close to him he will never achieve anything more than a working man's life because that is what he is meant to be. He follows in his father's (Ned Beatty) and brothers footsteps and works in the steel mills, saving up enough money to buy a house and marry the only girlfriend (Lili Taylor) he has ever had.

When his best friend Pete (Christopher Reed) gives him a Fighting Irish football jacket for his 22nd birthday, the viewer realizes Rudy's dream is still alive. The day Pete is buried, the viewer realizes the dream will never die.

But Rudy has more than guts and spunk. He has heart. And when the time came to prove them all wrong, nothing could stand in his way. Armed with enough determination to support his entire hometown, Rudy journeys by bus to Indiana, his heart filled with promise of fulfilling his dream.

**Assistance:** Upon Rudy's arrival at Notre Dame, he is aided by three very different men. His sincerity wins over Father Cavanaugh, (Robert Prosky, *Broadcast News, The Natural,*) who helps him enter a junior college in hopes of transferring into Notre Dame.

Fortune (Charles S. Dutton, *Mississippi Masala, Alien 3*) is head grounds-keeper at Knute Rockne Stadium, who befriends Rudy. And fellow collegiate D-Bob (Jon Favreau), who is great with the books, low on looks and slow with the chicks, tutors Rudy.

This is a classic feel-good underdog film. Although it gets a bit hokey at times, the story is portrayed realistically. The hairdos and fashions are perfect, and the Catholic rituals are immaculate.


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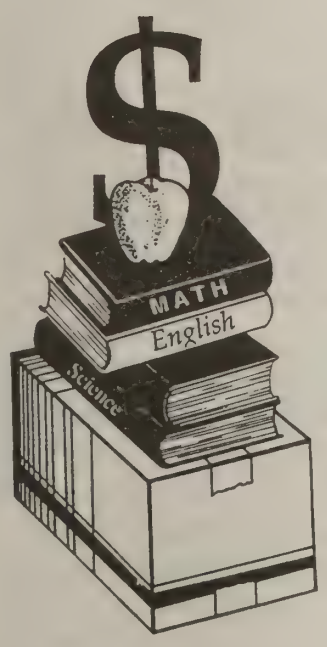


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## Lounge act

*S. LaChance photo*

**LOOK, ON stage, it's Former Gov. Michael Dukakis, it's Gov. William Weld, it's President Bill Clinton ... no, it's comedian Jim Flaherty doing his best political impersonations before a lunchtime audience in the cafeteria.**

# Humorist entertains dead audience

## Comedian struggles to satisfy NECC students in lunchtime assault on politicians

By DON TAHAN
*Arts & Entertainment Editor*

As the regular cavalcade of students wandered slowly into the cafeteria expecting to eat, drink and be merry, they were bestowed with a special presence instead.

In the midst of the lunchtime confusion, heads spun toward the cafe's stage as George Bush's voice pounded through amplifiers. Instead of the former president, students watched political humorist Jim Flaherty begin his one-hour assault on the world of politics.

Flaherty's comedy show coincided with the new exhibit sponsored by the Gallery, titled *No Laughing Matter: Political Cartoonists on the Environment*. The exhibit will run through October in the Bentley Library gallery.

**Comical anxiety:** Before his 11:30 a.m. performance, Flaherty showed signs of a man preparing for war. He wasn't sure how the students would react to his parody on politics. On top of that, he was just informed that the students probably didn't know he was going to perform.

Despite the two downfalls to his pre-show thinking, Flaherty headed for the cafe, hoping to feed the hungry cafeteria students with a little political humor.

"Here goes nothing," he said.

As he impersonated Bush, it was obvious the students in the cafe did not expect a comedy show. Heads raised from half-eaten sandwiches, drinks fell from the lips of the thirsty and the big question was, who in the world is this guy?

**Local parody:** From Bush, Flaherty transformed into Mike Dukakis. The crowd responded a little better to the Dukakis impersonation. Maybe it was the localization of this act that stirred the crowd some, or better yet, it could have been the Dukakis wig he sported. Either way, the small response he received loosened him up a little.

Staying with the local scene, Flaherty threw on a small, shaggy, red wig, tightened his posture and threw back his upper torso, resembling a man who had just seen a ghost. He then began to chant, "Weld's world, Weld's world, party time, excellent."

By the crowd's reaction Flaherty scored again, this time as Gov. William Weld.

But as he moved out of the local political groove, the crowd seemed to move itself out of the cafeteria. From this point, Flaherty had a hard time, so hard he almost had to beg people to respond to his jokes. Maybe he should have stayed with the local humor.

The rest of the show consisted of little skits such as a William Shatner acting class, and a Jeopardy game show with special guests Arnold Swarzennagger, Ted Kennedy and Elvis, played by Flaherty.

**Presidential:** As President Clinton, Flaherty said he wants to cut, cut, cut governmental spending, starting by reducing the Pentagon to a rectangle. Also, "I want to get more police officers on the streets. To do this, I am aiming to close all Dunkin Donuts outlets in the country. This will get them on the streets."

Other Clinton one-liners:

"Americans wanted change, well, they'll be out begging for it."

"Take it from me, if the air is polluted ... don't inhale."

"Single moms are the new heroes in our society; my goal is to reach out and touch as many of them as I can."

"With my new health care card, every citizen is not a sick person, but a sick number, that's what I'm aiming for, equality."

A handful of people cheered as Flaherty ended his show and by the look on his face, he was glad it was over.

Following his act, Flaherty quietly packed up his props and sketches and headed for the door.

**The business:** "I had a feeling before the show, that this was going to be tough," said Flaherty. "When my agent told me it was a community college, I knew I was in for it. But in this business, you have to take what comes to you, and believe me, shows don't usually knock on my door.

"Maybe next time I come here, I can work the break room during night school," he said. "I think I'll have better luck with an older audience."

Flaherty has a bachelor's degree in science and worked as a chemical engineer for about five years. He gave it up when he realized he liked making people laugh.

"Don't blame me, I had a disturbed childhood," he said.

Flaherty can be heard occasionally on FM radio WMIX 98.5, where he surges on with his political assault.

## Hindsight

***"I had a feeling before the show, that this was going to be tough," Jim Flaherty said. "When my agent told me it was a community college, I knew I was in for it."***

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# No laughing matter

## Cartoonists depict many environmental fears, uncertainty through clever use of irony, art

By DON TAHAN
*Arts & Entertainment Editor*

A man stands next to an oil dike on top of the world. Curiously, he peers down toward the dike's drill pounding through the bottom side of the globe.

A jungle man swings pleasantly through a lush rain forest. As he looks for the next vine, he notices the forest is gone and only a barren land of stumps exists. Cartoons such as these fill the walls of the college's gallery today, dealing with one issue — the environment.

*No Laughing Matter: Political Cartoonists on the Environment* is on display in the gallery during October. It consists of 80 cartoons exploring global, environmental issues by award-winning cartoonists from more than 20 countries. Admision is free.

**Organization:** The exhibit was developed for travel by the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service and will be seen nationally through March 1995.

Nationally syndicated and award-winning cartoonist Vic Cantone created the exhibit in 1990 as a stationary presentation shown at the Hofstra Museum. It was originally designed to coincide with the 1990 conference on the environment at the museum.

Cantone is a member of the Association of the American Editorial Cartoonists and served 30 years with the *New York Daily News.*

"The political cartoon presents an ability to cut across cultural lines by making a statement often universally understood in simple, graphic language," Cantone said.

**Hands all over:** With a variety of cartoons from all over the world, the exhibit displays a strong knowledge of environmental concerns the world faces. Overpopulation, pollution and depletion of forests are just a few environmental problems displayed in the cartoons of the exhibit.

Short environmental facts hang like picture frames amidst the cartoons. One reads: "If you're an average person, you generate 1 to 4 pounds of solid waste a day. In the United States, that adds up to 140 million tons of garbage a year. Eighty percent of that is dumped in landfills. But landfills can leak chemicals and cause serious water pollution. And where do you dump when the land is filled."

Cantone provided the cartoons by means of private collections, publications and syndicates, the Cartoonists & Writers Syndicate (which represents leading cartoonists from more than 50 countries) and the Montreal International Salon of Cartoons.

**The history:** Editorial cartoonists follow a century-old tradition in their pieces. The use of wit, simple graphic elements, irony, exaggeration, humor and sarcasm all calculate strong messages relayed to politicians and the public.

"The political cartoonist is like a powerful, political weapon in that he or she can create an image and at the same time influence public opinion," Cantone said.

Looking at the cartoons, it becomes hard to determine whether or not they are humorous or depressing.

A political graphic from Iran depicts a man undergoing a chest X-ray, revealing lungs filled with a massive traffic jam and a horizon full of skyscrapers. Though the cartoon's appearance may be humorous, it's still capable of pulling the viewer into the harsh reality of what people breathe into their lungs all day.

Thw exhibit can be seen in the Bentley Library's gallery. Admission is free.

**Mightier than the sword**

*S. LaChance photo*

**TODD LAMONDE, commercial arts, sketches a cartoon in the Bentley Library gallery. It is one of 80 political cartoons on display by editorial cartoonists from 20 different countries. All cartoons center on politics and the environment.**

# Topnotch players get ready to perform again

**Like this?**

*L. Herrera photo*

**MICHELLE GROWAN, liberal arts, tries to show student George Forte how to swing a loy during rehearsal.**

By LINDA E. HERRERA
*Observer Staff Reporter*

Magic is performed on the third floor of C-building in a room with black walls, red seats and white lights. It is the magic of the Topnotch Theater.

Unlike conventional magicians, the Topnotch Players do not use tall, silk hats inhabited by rabbits to enthrall. Instead, by the power of sight and sound, they transport their audiences to County Mayo, Ireland in the early 1900s and into the lives of the characters of the J.M. Synge play, *The Playboy of the Western World*.

Under bright lights, Michelle McGowen, liberal arts, walks across the stage, script in hand, and speaks to Chris Disablio, creative arts.

**Practicing:** "Well, you're a daring fellow, and if they find his corpse stretched above the dews of dawn what'll you say then to the peelers, or the Justice of the Peace?" Pegeen Mike says to her future husband, Shawn Keogh.

*The Playboy of the Western World* has all the elements of more modern plays: love, mysterious strangers and even murder. The drama unfolds in the early 20th century equivalent of a small-town bar, the shebeen in this three-act comedy performed in an Irish brogue.

"It is a really funny play with a very talented cast," said Dan Bacon who plays Michael James, Pegeen's father and owner of the shebeen. "Most of us had a good idea of the brogue at the auditions, but now we are refining it."

Acting with a foreign accent is a new experience for Kelly Steele, creative arts, who had to perfect a New York accent for *Brighton Beach Memoirs* last year.

**Experience:** Her role as Susan Brady, a young village girl, is one of many she has played since elementary school. She plans to have many more when she transfers to UMass/Amherst in the spring.

A love of theater also motivates Dawn Smith, general studies, who plays the role of the Widow Quinn.

"I think that the Lord says that this (the theater) is what I am supposed to do," Smith said.

She has performed in musicals and plays since high school, has acted in several one-act plays, and has served as stage manager for *Brighton Beach Memoirs.*

**Doors open:** The Topnotch Players perform several one-act plays during the semester. It is open to any NECC student interested in acting. Production crew members are also needed to work on sets and costumes.

"We are committed to non-traditional casting," Susan E. Sanders, theater coordinator, said. "We welcome any student who wants to be a part of the magic of the theater."

*The Playboy of the Western World* opens Nov. 12 with performances on Nov.13 and Nov. 17-20 in the Topnotch Theater.

Other cast members include Mike Hamm, Steve Serwacki, Melanie Forsege, Peggy Borgard, Amanda Blake, Frank Smith, George Forte and Dave Mills.

Crew members include Michael DeFeo, Lisa Marie DaVinci and Michelle Tetrault. Dave Mills is the stage manager.

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# Granite State's Graceland

## Portsmouth coffee house offers comfort, cappuccino, Elvis

**Cup of Joe**

*S. LaChance photo*

**ELVIS ROOM owners, Dawn Marie and Michael Winters sit back and enjoy a fresh cup of coffee after the recent opening of their Portsmouth, N.H. restaurant.**

By JOHN MURPHY
*Observer Staff Reporter*

These days people don't have to travel to Graceland Mansion to see an Elvis room. On May 27, the self-proclaimed (world-famous) Elvis Room coffee house opened its doors for the first time in Portsmouth, N.H.

Although curious patrons will not find the king of rock 'n' roll there, they will find a unique atmosphere, friendly service, a game of chess, live entertainment and a great cup of coffee.

After walking through the doors of the Elvis Room, notice the art work submitted by customers hanging from the walls that make up the main section of the coffee house. Some of the art is for sale and some of it for display; some of it is so abstract and macabre it would make the late Andy Warhol green with envy.

**Atmosphere:** At the front, people are paired off at tables engaged in a game of chess, while teenagers and adults sit on sofas that line the walls, socializing over a cup of coffee. Toward the back sits a coffee bar where people can sit and enjoy coffee, tea, juice and muffins. On the countertop stands a ceramic statue of the King himself and a glass full of assorted coins, which states, "Tipping Is Good Karma."

The Elvis Room features many varieties of gourmet coffee. House blend, Double Dutch Chocolate, Mocha Latte and Espresso Con Panna are among the selections.

"We make a killer cappuccino," boasts co-owner Dawn Marie Winters.

Beyond the coffee bar is a small adjoining room where people can relax on sofas, read and converse in a more quiet atmosphere. The walls have collages painted on them and on one of the end tables a sign reads, "Do Not Hump." The restrooms are distinguished by posters that cover the doors: Elvis for the men's and Marilyn Monroe for women's.

**Where:** Located on 142 Congress St., the Elvis Room is jointly owned and managed by Winters and her husband Michael, Barbara Becht and Lori Baker.

Asked why the name Elvis was used for a coffee house, Dawn-Marie Winters said, "The coffee house was a dream we all had and the name of it was a random decision."

This decision was perhaps a little too random for the owners of Graceland Mansion in Memphis, Tenn., who feel the owners of the Elvis Room should have requested permission to use the name "Elvis."

"Although Graceland does not want to sue or anything, they wish we would just go away. But as it stands, the Elvis Room will stay just the way it is," Winters said.

**Politics:** The Elvis Room is a place of imagination, both abstract and creative in appearance. Displayed in the front window is a life-size figure of George Bush holding a decapitated likeness of Ronald Reagan behind a television with a quote upon its screen: "In this world of information overload, the benumbered citizen no longer reads or thinks; he watches and feels...."

Customers are encouraged to participate at the Elvis Room by submitting art, poetry or to take part in the weekly entertainment held there. On Monday and Tuesday evenings, the coffee house presents un-plugged music, and on Wednesdays beginning at 9 p.m. it features "Spoken Word Night." All artists, poets and performance artists are invited to read their original work or read the works of their favorite writers.

Thursday evening is *Open Mic Night*, hosted by Michael Winters from 9 p.m. to midnight. Singers and musicians of any persuasion and background are invited to play.

"We're working on a couple of possibilities in the future; one of them will be a cram night for college students during final exams, where the coffee house will stay open all night, and we may start having a comedy night," Michael Winters said.

There's no cover charge for entertainment.

**Free:** There's also no charge to borrow any of the assorted books within the book case at the Elvis Room .

"We don't ask for a deposit or have people sign the books out, everything is done on trust," Michael Winters said.

Ken Pratt, a regular customer, helped paint and get the place ready for opening day.

"This is a great place," he said. "I think this thing with Graceland is a crock of commercial bull sh-t. The people that come here, come here for the place, not the name."

The Elvis Room is a place where you will see the young talking to the old, Skin Heads playing chess with yuppies and Dead Heads drinking coffee with punk rockers. It is truly a rare melting pot in a world of indifference.

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**Saturday, Oct. 23, 1993**
***10:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.***

**Sunday, Oct. 24, 1993**
***10:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.***

**Admission - $2.00**
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## Upcoming Events

As part of AIDS Awareness Week, the Wellness Center will present "AIDS Awareness: Am I Aware?" Wednesday, Oct. 13, in the cafeteria lobby from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

❑ The NECC Foundation will sponsor an environmental folk concert Sunday, Oct. 17, in the gallery at 2 p.m.

❑ Student Activities will host a Classic Rock 'n' Roll Lunch with a Mocktail Bar Monday, Oct. 18, in the Student Center from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

❑ Life Long Learning will offer a lecture titled "Images of Kenya" Thursday, Oct. 21, in the Bentley Library's conference area at 2 p.m.

Jim Gustafson, NECC professor of philosophy, will discuss his two trips to Kenya. He will also present a video, *Intimate Exposure to the Nzioha Family*, tracing the cultural beliefs of the Akamba family. Admission is free.

❑ LLL will sponsor a trip to the Boston Museum of Fine Arts to view *The Age of Rubens* Friday, Oct. 22. A bus leaves at 9 a.m. and returns at 3 p.m. The exhibit features over 30 works of art by Peter Rubens, master of 17th century Flemish paintings. The fee is $22, which includes museum admission. Registration deadline is Oct. 15.

❑ LLL will sponsor a lecture "Toll of the Sea: Shipwrecks in the Newburyport Area 1870-1938" Thursday, Oct. 28, in the Bentley Library's conference area at 2 p.m. Will Van Dorp, author of *Incomplete Journeys*, will discuss his book and research on the topic. Admission is free.

❑ The NECC Hispanic Cultural Club will hold a Halloween Party Saturday, Oct. 30, in the student center cafeteria at 8 p.m. Entertainment includes live music and prizes, and everyone is welcome. The first drink of the night is free; cover charge is $3. For more information, call Maria Garcia at 687-3635.

## Trivia Contest

*Congratulations to last week's winner: Julie Risner, liberal arts/journalism/broadcasting. Julie is not a member of the Observer staff.*

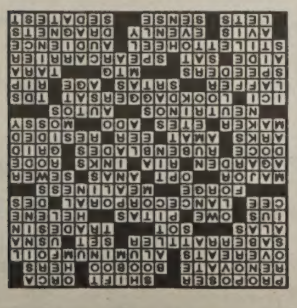
1. Who shot J.R. on the TV series *Dallas*?
2. What movie are the Flinstones going to see at the drive-in during the opening credits of the cartoon?
3. What country is U2 originally from?
4. Who wrote the song *I Shot the Sheriff*?
5. In what music video does vocalist Shannon Hoon sing backup vocals from a roof top?

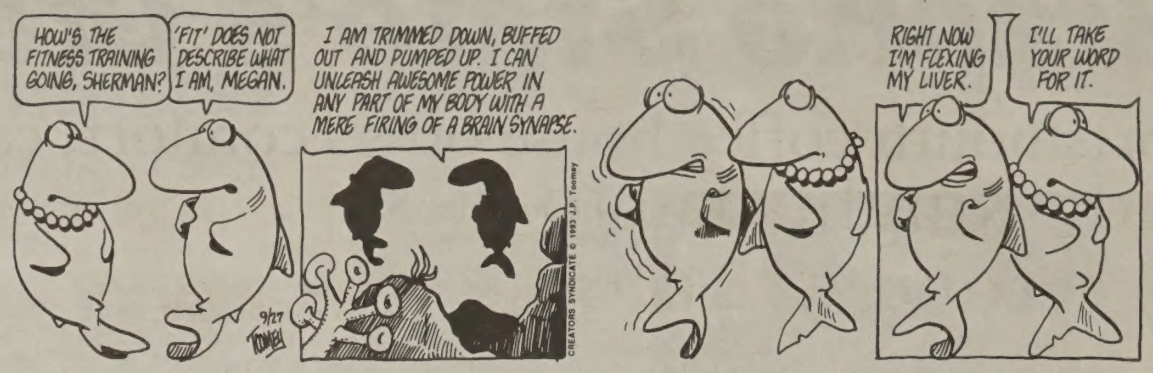
**Last Issues answers:**

1. *Incesticide* 2. Canada 3. *Jurassic Park* 4. *Graceland* 5. *The Talisman*

*Bring the correct answer to all five questions to the NECC Observer office in the student center for a chance to win a large cheese pizza from Papa Gino's, Plaistow, N.H. Entries must be received by Wednesday, Oct. 21 at noon. Answers along with the winner's name will be printed in the next issue.*

Economist Arthur LAFFER (100 Across) was one of the originators of supply-side economics. "Part passu" (123 Across) means "with equal pace" in Latin. The comic strip "ETTA Kett" (7 Down) was created in 1925 as a way to teach good manners to kids.ex. ADAD (116 Down), short for "automatic dialing announcing device," is a coded card that is inserted into a telephone.






## Sherman's Lagoon

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9/5/93

### THE NEWSDAY CROSSWORD

Edited by Stanley Newman

POINTED REMARKS: Guaranteed to sharpen your wits

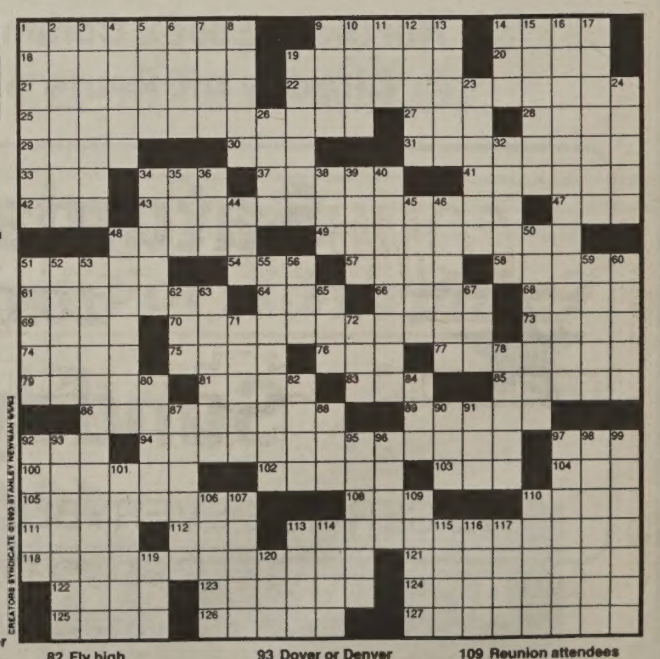
by Randolph Ross

**ACROSS**

1 Kneeler with a diamond
9 Work tour
14 Movie of a whale
18 Gentrify
19 Error
20 Towel pronoun
21 Wears out the cutlery
22 Food wrap
25 Aggressor
27 Sink in the west
28 Annapolis Inits.
29 Word of woe
30 Barfly
31 Sells back to the dealer
33 Vitamin A amts.
34 Have bills
37 Falafel pockets
41 Cosmetician Curtis
42 Average grade
43 Marine rank
47 __ Moines, IA
48 Counterfeit
49 Granularity
51 Collegian's choice
54 Exert one's will
57 Collections of anecdotes
58 Ed Norton's milieu
61 "And the Lord God planted __": Genesis
64 Inlet
66 India and invisible
68 Got on a horse
69 Twice *seis*
70 *Crossover Dreams* star
73 Set of squares
74 Boats of refuge
75 Latin 101 word
76 Auction conclusion
77 Dwelt
79 Craftsperson
81 Hot times in Le Havre
83 Fuss and bother
85 Lichenlike
86 Subatomic particles
89 Ford and Lincoln
92 Here, in Paris
94 Stare angrily
97 6-pt. plays
100 Economist with a curve
102 Miles. of Mallorca
103 Census datum
104 Tom or Taylor
105 Troopers' prey
108 Short get-together?
110 Scarlett's turf
111 White House staffer
112 Posed (for)
113 Supernumerary
118 Women's shoe feature
121 Playgoers, e.g.
122 Alamo rival
123 *Pari passu*
124 Manhunts
125 "Why don't we?"
126 See or hear
127 Least agitated

**DOWN**

1 Unimaginative
2 Change an appraisal
3 __ hit (single)
4 Some holes in the head
5 Above and beyond
6 German state
7 The comics' Miss Kett
8 Musical symbols
9 One and only
10 Time of day
11 PC purveyor
12 Palm off
13 Copier additive
14 Bit of resistance
15 Stop for gas
16 Emulated D'Artagnan
17 Incredibly silly
19 Scandinavian sea
23 Beehive Stater
24 Bowling alleys
26 Drink too much
32 Ousts from the galleys
34 Prayer phrase
35 Diplomacy alternative
36 HS subject
38 Mr. Turkey
39 Vicinity
40 Dali or Picasso
44 Corporate VIP
45 Chan portrayer
46 Speculator
48 Use a crystal ball
50 Mendes and Leone
51 Palindromic title
52 Mall for Plato
53 Greg Louganis move
55 Playacts
56 Sardine holder
59 Adams and McClurg
60 "I Am Woman" singer
62 Southpaw's stat
63 69 Across, e.g.
65 Writer Burrows
67 Compass dir.
71 Dye-with-wax technique
72 Grazing area
78 Struck down
80 Held sway
82 Fly high
84 Scull propeller
87 Laid __ (settled)
88 NCO
90 "Dream Team" insignia
91 Price holder
92 Namesakes of a *Casablanca* character
93 Dover or Denver
95 With pluck
96 *"¿Cómo __ usted?"*
97 Apprentice
98 Makes a movie
99 Most frugal
101 "I can __ in my bones"
106 Charges
107 Kitchen appliance
109 Reunion attendees
110 Council site
113 DC bigwigs
114 Soccer great
115 Treat ham
116 Tel. calling card
117 Latvian port
119 Slalom shape
120 Important layer



**See answers left.**

# Tough loss

## Lady Knights fail to pick up second win of season

By CHRIS OTOVIC
*Observer Sports Editor*

The NECC volleyball team pushed the right buttons in the first two games against the Dean Red Devils, but then they got their fingers broken for the rest of the match.

Looking for its second win of the season, the team came up empty, losing in five games. Dean, a powerhouse in Division II play, jumped out to a 9-1 lead in game one, but the Lady Knights were brought back by the serving of Shaye Fenton.

Fenton's serve cut the deficit to 9-8 and pushed them to victory, 15-13.

**Big lead:** Game two showed more dominant play from Fenton and Lady Knights star Cheryl Lemoine. Strong hitting and blocking along with solid defense by Rebecca Marcotte gave NECC a 12-10 lead. After the switching of serves, a Fenton volley fell between three Red Devil defenders for a 15-13 victory and a 2-0 lead.

NECC's highlights next turned to low lights.

The Lady Knights appeared to tie game three at four all, but were called for serving out of order.

**Downhill:** Dean took advantage, jumping out to a 10-4 lead, but a mini NECC run and two Red Devil errors tied the game at 10. Dean then polished off the hometown team by scoring the next five straight, winning 15-11.

With the Lady Knights still leading two games to one, Dean quickly erased the deficit by giving the Knights a beating in game four with leads of 6-1, 9-4 and 14-6, winning 15-7. Flat and tired, NECC's third win was nowhere in sight with Dean appearing jumpy and into the match. The Lady Knights smiled throughout the first two games but no more. Dean would smile last with a game five victory, giving another beating to NECC, 15-7, which featured a 12-3 lead.

"The first two games we played ping-pong, and they didn't know how to handle it," coach Leslie Brenker said. "We got really tired the last two games, but our conditioning isn't too good. We also have a lot of cliquishness on the team and if we can get over the 'I don't like this one or that one,' we will be fine."

### Meeting of the minds

*C. Otovic photo*

**THE LADY Knights meet before a game against the Dean Red Devils to discuss offensive and defensive positions. The Lady Knights lost the match in five games.**

# Ready, eager player helps volleyball team

By CHRIS OTOVIC
*Observer Sports Editor*

Talented, Cheryl Lemoine, smile and all, is ready for all challenges facing her at NECC.

Lemoine is a star athlete, having played volleyball, basketball, and softball at Greater Lowell Vocational High School. She now is a three-sport athlete at NECC.

"In high school, I loved basketball, but now I'm starting to love volleyball," Lemoine said. "I love staying involved and being active."

**Gifted:** Blessed with natural talent and guided by coach Leslie Brenker, Lemoine is optimistic.

"I worry that Cheryl will get bored here," Brenker said.

"Leslie is a great coach," Lemoine said. "But sometimes I do get bored during practices."

Lemoine feels she is battling opposing teams alone, but things may change.

**Real deal:** She understands that Jack Hess' basketball national contender is no fluke and she hopes to contribute.

"I'm not intimidated by the other players, but basketball looks good," Lemoine said She also knows her role.

"My game is on the boards," Lemoine said.

At 5 feet 11 inches, Lemoine is one of the taller players on both of her teams, and working out at the gym everyday during the summer helped her build up.

**Help:** On the volleyball team, all responsibilities are not on her shoulders as long as second-year player Shaye Fenton is playing with her.

"Whenever she is not there, I feel like everything is put on me," Lemoine said, giving Fenton a rating of nine or 10.

Majoring in physical education, Lemoine said, "this place is OK. I sort of wish I went away (to college) but if I would have went away, I'm afraid I wouldn't have made it with the academics. I didn't know what to expect for work at a four-year school."

As far as Lemoine the person, she enjoys regular things just like everyone else.

"I like to go out with my friends and hang out," Lemoine said, and as far as the media goes, she likes to be involved.

"The media doesn't bother me," Lemoine said. "It makes me feel better about myself, but I don't gloat about it."

# Today's stars play for one reason: money

By CHRIS OTOVIC
*Observer Sports Editor*

No athlete should make millions of dollars a year.

The Charlotte Hornets just released the terms of basketball player Larry Johnson's contract last week, a 12-year contract worth $84 million. Seven million dollars a year? And he's not the highest paid player in professional sports. Wayne Gretzky, of the Los Angeles Kings will reportedly make a cool $8.5 million dollars this hockey season.

Gretzky is the highest paid hockey player. Johnson owns the top basketball salary. Barry Bonds signed a contract last season with baseball's San Francisco Giants, giving him $43.8 million over the next six years. In football, take your pick. A number of people make $5 million dollars a year or more. Drew Bledsoe, the number one pick in the 1993 NFL draft, will make $14.3 million over the next six years and he hadn't even played an NFL game.

### I Otto Know

**Big order:** Shaquille O'Neal stands at 7 feet 1 inch, and weighs 303 lbs., but is he worth $41.9 million? The man they call "Shaq Attack" is ready to start his second NBA season with the Orlando Magic.

Before he even stepped onto a court in Orlando, he signed the million dollar contract and had a $30 million Reebok shoe contract in the works. The rookie was worth $71.9 million before even playing a game.

**Player view:** Shaq's view on money: "I make more money in one year than my father made his his entire life, but that doesn't make me a better person than him."

Interesting. He also said money helps him take care of his loved ones. He went and bought a 1994 Mercedes for his father.

Another case: Shawn Bradley. The 7 feet 6 inch Bradley went to Brigham Young University and played one year of college basketball, then he went to Australia to complete his two-year religious mission. For two years, he didn't pick up a ball. After two years, he just signed an eight-year, $44.2 million contract.

Only in America.

The fans' question is usually, where do owners get the money to pay these people?

The standard NBA arena holds about 15,000 people and the average ticket price is about $30. Each game hauls in about $450,000 a game. The NBA teams have 41 home games.

**Top dollar:** During the season, a team pulls in roughly $18.4 million just in ticket prices alone. This doesn't include marketing, souvenirs, novelty items and other money-making gimmicks. The size of television contracts also has a lot to do with salaries. The NBA currently has the biggest one.

Money talk has driven fans away from sports. Athletes' whining for more money makes some people sick.

Someday, drive to Dorchester and view all of the homeless people sleeping on the side of the street, then turn on the television or pick up the paper and listen to Ray Bourque of the Boston Bruins whine about his $2.25 million contract.

Here stands a guy disappointed about making $1.1 million a year so he fights management for a raise. When neither side budged, the case went to an arbitrator and he awarded Bourque a $1.15 million raise and he's upset. The man is making $2.25 million a year and he's upset? Unbelievable.

In 1919, Babe Ruth made $10,000 a year and played the game because he loved it and not because of the money.

If contracts like these don't end, people will continue to ask when this will stop.

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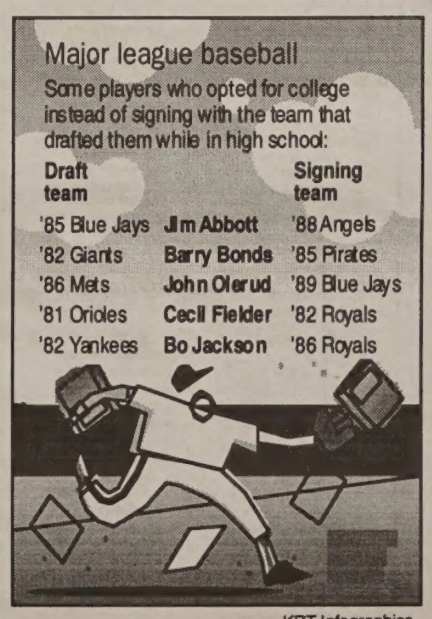
### Sports Infograph




KRT Infographics

### Greed

*"Athletes whining for more money make some people sick."*

# Soccer swearing blow-up

## Bad play leads to display of frustration during halftime

By CHRIS OTOVIC
*Observer Sports Editor*

All the swearing at each other in the world wouldn't change the play of the NECC soccer team. No matter what happened, they would still be 2-5-1.

During a recent game against Manchester Community College, falling behind at halftime caused major frustration and led to a verbal swearing contest between two NECC players.

All of this would have been partially acceptable if not for children in the stands watching the game.

Jack Hess, director of athletics and intramural recreation, was surprised when told of the situation.

"No one condones that kind of behavior," Hess said. "When I hear of that, I have to think that is totally unprofessional behavior."

**Other priority:** Head coach, Nunzio DiMarca, was running for mayor of Lawrence and could not make the game.

He put his assistant coach, Don Elard, in charge of the team the day the outburst occurred.

"That was unjustified and uncalled for in any situation," DiMarca said. "More than anything else, I understand this but I don't justify it. I was a player and I understand that people get frustrated; it happens."

No action will be taken against the two players for the altercation, but DiMarca has a solution if it happens again.

**Final word:** "If I hear anything again, they are off the team," DiMarca said. "We are a gentleman's team and the funny thing about this, is that the two players that were arguing, are best friends. But believe me, if I say it won't happen again, it won't happen again."

The NECC soccer team scored two goals against Manchester, but were outscored by Manchester's five goals.

On a chilly afternoon, NECC started hot, but finished cold.

Ron Lima drew first blood early in the first half, putting the Knights on the board with a kick from the left side.

Manchester put the next two goals in the net to take a 2-1 lead. NECC appeared to have many chances to score, but offside calls seemed to poison all of their chances.

**Mistakes:** Late in the first half, Manchester scored their third goal with a kick from the right elbow going between the legs of NECC goalie Erik Archambault and into the net for a 3-1 lead.

One person on the sidelines mumbled, "How could he make a mistake like that."

After the third Manchester goal, John Morneau had a great chance for the Knights, but he kicked the ball wide left, missing the goal by inches.

**Injury:** A Manchester bid at a fourth goal hit the crossbar and a little later, one Manchester player broke his nose colliding with a NECC player causing much bad blood between NECC and Manchester through the rest of the game.

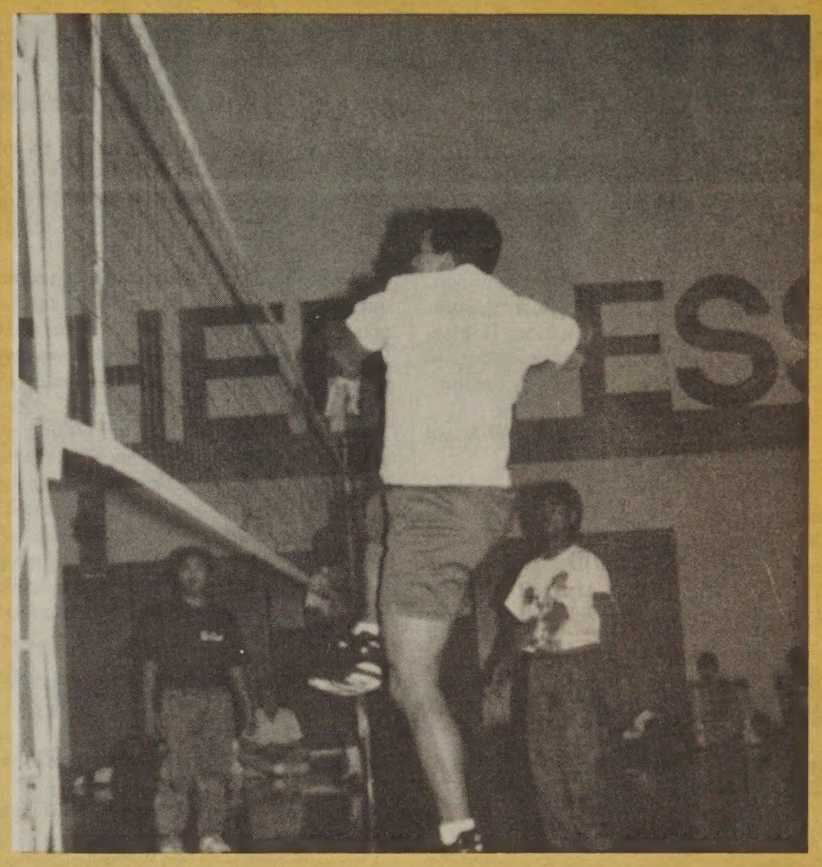
Manchester and NECC traded goals in the final minutes of the game to make the 5-2 final.

"We have 14 players that are very dedicated," DiMarca said. "But we have a lot of kids that work."

DiMarca, a fourth-year head coach, seemed confident in his players.

"I always said that it takes seven games before we get into the flow," DiMarca said.

His seven games now are up.



**Playing ball**

*T. Vu photo*

**INTRAMURAL VOLLEYBALL is featured every Monday in the gym between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. Students are also welcome to come down and play during the week. For details, ask Mike Smith at the intramurals desk.**

# Baseball team looks strong in recent games

By CHRIS OTOVIC
*Observer Sports Editor*

Fall baseball was set to be canceled because of a money shortage this year, but instead the team is concentrating on beating Division II teams.

Head coach Mike Rowinski led the Knights into Merrimack College recently for a doubleheader rematch and again they swept a twin bill, 4-3 and 5-1, improving to 5-0 on the season.

In the first game, Jimmy Medierios pitched three innings and gave up three runs, before being replaced by Larry Rodgers. Rodgers pitched four strong scoreless innings in picking up the win. Dan Lewis led the Knight hit squad with a three for four performance when they scored three runs in the top of the third to go ahead, 4-3.

**Another win:** In game two, freshman Ben Cooper pitched five innings to pick-up NECC's fifth win of the season. Lewis' hitting again shined with another base hit and a home run.

"Anytime we play a Division II school and play them soundly, I'm happy," Rowinski said.

The week before Merrimack College, NECC took on defending NCJAA Division II national champion Massasoit Community College and despite hitting into an unusual triple play, the Knights beat the reigning champs, 12-5.

**Offense:** In a rare nine-inning game, most games lasting seven, NECC shut down the best hitters Massasoit had and scored 12 runs off second-string pitching. Richie Bernard received the win.

"We hit the ball real well," Rowinski said. "We shut down their best hitters, but didn't face their top pitchers.

"I think that Chris DiMento was a surprise at third base and Mark Rurak, I knew he was good, but I found out that he was an outstanding outfielder and has a bat, too. It was a short fall season with all the rainouts, but it was very productive."

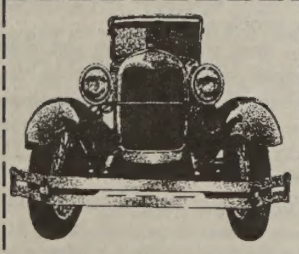
## Sports Trivia

Congratulations to last week's winner: **George Lynch**, computer major

1. What year did the Boston Celtics win their last NBA Championship?
2. How many times did Roger Clemens win the Cy Young Award?
3. What was the last team to win back-to-back World Series?
4. What head coach has the most Monday Night Football victories?
5. How many times has Walter Payton been to the Super Bowl?

Last week's answers: 1903, Noel Picard, 1982, Pat Wilson had 190 RBIs, Chuck Fairbanks in 1973.

*Bring the correct answer to all five questions to the NECC Observer office for a chance to win a large cheese pizza from Papa Gino's, Plaistow, N.H. Entries must be received by Wednesday, Oct.21, at noon. Answers, along with the winner's name, will be printed in our next issue.*

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